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Issue No 134

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Helping you make the right choice

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UKIP JOINS FIGHT OVER PORT SALE

BRITAIN should withdraw from the European Union, stop paying cash to Brussels and use money available to expand the Port of Dover, says UKIP.

The Eurosceptic party is opposed to the port's sale and wants a referendum to decide its future.

All three major party candidates fighting the Dover and Deal seat agree that it must remain in public hands rather than be sold for £500 million to help finance the national debt. And last week, during an

■ BY NICK AMES
and JAMIE SMITH

ELECTION 2010

appearance in the town, UKIP leader Lord Pearson said: "The decision should be made by local people through a referendum.

"The cost of EU membership is £124 billion a year. I can't believe we're wasting all that money.

"In 2008, the Government's own figures say we gave £6.6bn to Brussels in cash – about £18 million a day.

"When you think of the iconic importance of the Port of Dover to this country, it's silly to say we can't find £500m when we're throwing so much money away on Europe."

Labour's Gwyn Prosser has been a long-term opponent of privatisation, while Tory Charlie Elphicke says the port is vital to the nation's security.

The RMT union says it could mean redundancies and bring in unreliable shipping companies.

And Liberal Democrat John Brigden said it was a crucial public asset.

However, Dover District Council leader Paul Watkins said the authority

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HE'LL BITE THEM ON THE BEACHES

Scrum the bulldog prowled the seafront in Dover as UKIP supporters visited the Sea Sports Centre to pledge their opposition to the proposed sale of the Port of Dover.

The bulldog is a frequent sight campaigning alongside west Kent candidate Vic Webb and posed for pictures alongside UKIP leader Lord Pearson. The candidates then took to the water in the boat Southern Queen, which sailed across the harbour to give them views of the ferries, lighthouses, castle and, of course, the White Cliffs.



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yourlifestyle

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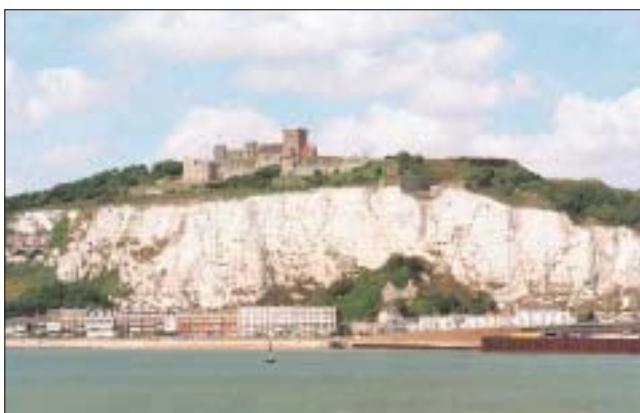
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HOME AT LAST: A welcome sight for many stranded British travellers – the White Cliffs of Dover

Trial date is set over alleged bomb hoax

A DOVER man will go on trial next year accused of making a bomb threat while drunk on a flight from London's Heathrow Airport.

Ronald Fowles, 58, denies saying there was a bomb on board Emirates flight EK004 to Dubai when staff challenged him about his alleged drunken behaviour while the Boeing 777 was taxiing at Heathrow on January 8.

He will go on trial on April 4 next year at Southwark Crown Court in London and will appear alongside Alexander McGinn, 49, who denies being drunk on the same aircraft.

Fowles, of Edred Road, denied communicating false information with intent when he appeared in court on Friday.

Fowles and McGinn, of Evison Close, Dover, both denied being drunk on an aircraft. They were granted bail.

Energy-savers unite for the green forum

MORE than 50 people interested in learning about the latest options for having cheaper and greener energy in their own homes packed Deal's Landmark Centre meeting hall to hear speakers.

Organised by the local Deal With It environmental campaign, the two-hour Green Energy Forum ranged over a talk by Open University energy researcher Steve Plater on the history and latest developments for green energy solutions, to practical and cost-effective projects tried and tested by Deal resident Jack Domane.

His enthusiasm for low-cost DIY domestic heating solutions prompted a number of the audience to join in setting up a local DIY group to take things forward in Deal. Others are welcome to be involved and can contact the organisers on 01304 364138.

Scheme to improve mental health care

A NEW strategy is being developed to improve mental health across east Kent.

As well as helping people stay well, it focuses on ensuring that people with mental health needs – one in four at some point in their lives – get the care they need.

A draft of the strategy, called Live It Well, will be available until Friday, May 7, for public comments.

Lauretta Kavanagh, director of commissioning for mental health, said: "This strategy is about all of us working together as a community to improve mental wellbeing in this area and to ensure that people who develop mental illness get the care that best meets their needs."

Travellers' tales of woe as they finally reach the home straits

FERRY companies at Dover and Eurostar have laid on extra services to cope with passengers stranded in Europe by the volcanic ash flights crisis.

They had been criticised by some travellers who claimed prices had been hiked – but the companies pointed out the existing fare structure always made tickets more expensive on the day, rather than booked in advance.

Other UK residents have been making their own way home.

Holiday

John Collins and his wife Denise, from Manchester, had been on holiday in Thailand.

They flew into Amsterdam on Wednesday last week, but their connecting flight to Manchester was cancelled.

"Our hearts sank," said Mr Collins, a retired transport manager. The couple and a friend checked into a hotel in Amsterdam as they waited for news.

After two nights with no prospect

■ BY NICK AMES

of a flight, they teamed up with three other people, hired a car and drove to Calais, where they boarded a ferry.

"We will probably hire another car in Dover," said Mr Collins as he waited at the ferry terminal in Calais.

"We were supposed to be home on Thursday afternoon. Instead it's likely to be the early hours of Sunday."

Philip and Christine Parker, from Preston, made a complex plan to get home after their flight from Paris was cancelled at the end of a break to celebrate their 50th birthdays.

With Eurostar trains fully booked, they took a train to Calais, a boat across the Channel and once in Dover were picked up by Mr Parker's brother-in-law.

He drove them to Corley in the Midlands. From there they were due to be picked up by their daughter and her boyfriend and driven home to Preston.

"It's just our luck that it happened this week," said Mr Parker. "But you just have to get on with it."

French veto boat rescue bid

FRENCH pen-pushers said 'Non!' to the Dunkirk spirit as an audacious plan to pluck stranded Brits from Calais was halted due to fears of asylum-seekers boarding rescue boats.

Just 25 people came back to Dover thanks to the plan masterminded by TV presenter Dan Snow, but he was aiming to bring back thousands in a Little Ships-style armada.

The 'Dunkirk-style' evacuation to bring back holidaymakers stranded in France was halted by officials who feared illegal immigrants would smuggle themselves on board.

As the first five boats set to depart, French gendarmes swooped and made passengers disembark.

After a search of the vessels, they were allowed to head for home – but only on the undertaking that the rescue team not return.

Mr Snow and his team had been planning to ferry people back to Dover throughout Sunday.

The historian said the idea came about after his friend's wife was stranded as airspace across Europe was closed following the Icelandic volcanic-ash alert.

He said it was also inspired by a recent BBC project marking the 70th anniversary of the Dunkirk evacuation.

Speaking before he set off, he said: "Why can't we go and get some people. A few things have changed nowadays – health and safety, passport control – but I think we've dealt with all of that."

But a message via Twitter on Sunday afternoon said: "We have been shut down! No reason. Rescued 25 on way home shortly. No more boats we are very sorry."



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ELECTION 2010 The Dover and Deal seat is being hotly contested and here are the candidates who want to represent you in Parliament



IT'S YOUR CHOICE: The Parliamentary candidates include Labour's Gwyn Prosser, Conservative Charlie Elphicke, Liberal Democrat John Brigden and UKIP candidate Vic Matcham

Meet the candidates who want to represent you all

Gwyn Prosser (Labour) was elected to the parliamentary seat of Dover and Deal in 1997 and has been in place ever since.

Born in Wales and married, he spent his pre-political life at sea before coming to Dover to work on the cross Channel ferries.

There he became involved in union activities and acted as both a district councillor and a county councillor before first standing for parliament for the seat in 1989, but losing narrowly.

He is a keen supporter of the Port of Dover remaining in public hands and has actively opposed plans for a sell-off – as currently exist – on a number of occasions.

Charlie Elphicke (Conservative) is a married tax lawyer who has also worked in the pharmaceutical

research industry. He is a research fellow at the Centre for Policy Studies and an expert on tax and pensions.

He opposes any plans to sell off the port and thinks that the UK would benefit from fewer laws. He is also concerned about the impact of high taxes on families, especially those that are least well-off.

Mr Elphicke, who lives in Deal, says he is also very concerned about the levels of immigration into the UK as well as the security of the country's borders.

John Brigden (Liberal Democrat) runs a company involved with classic cars and has taken part in motor rallies in various parts of the world.

He is a councillor in Sevenoaks, but has family connections in Deal and was brought up in Singapore and

Pakistan so has an interest in people from those regions

He is against the sell-off of the port but enthusiastic about maintaining strong links with the European Union.

Mr Brigden says he is also worried that increased housing plans for Dover will have an adverse effect on transport in the area and put a strain on the local infrastructure.

Vic Matcham (UKIP) stood in the last general election in Dover and Deal as an Independent candidate.

Dennis Whiting (BNP) contested the Maidstone seat for the National Front in 1979.

Michael Walters (English Democrats) is part of a party which says it puts English interests first.

RESULTS IN 2005

Gwyn Prosser (Lab) 21,680
Paul Watkins (Con) 16,739
Antony Hook (Lib Dem) 7,607
Mike Wiltshire (UKIP) 1,252
Vic Matcham (Ind) 606
Turnout 67.6 per cent
Lab majority 4,941 (10.3 per cent)

On the campaign trail in your area

CONSERVATIVE candidate Charlie Elphicke has been knocking doors across the Dover and Deal constituency and said the same themes keep re-appearing.

They include the proposed sell-off of the Port of Dover, immigration and a lack of opportunities for young people.

Mr Elphicke said: "I have been pointing out that the Government wants to get rid of one third of our border staff. I have told them I am in favour of a drop-in centre for young people."

Meanwhile Labour's Gwyn Prosser said it was vital that the town of Deal kept its own identity. "Deal is a place of its own," he said. "It should not be a dormitory town for Dover."

Looking to the future Liberal Democrat candidate John Brigden said the town of Dover should make more of its opportunities to attract visitors.

"We have more than 1,000 years of history and we need to make the most of it."

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On the doorstep with Tory candidate Charlie Elphicke. Search 'Elphicke'

Port 'should stay in public ownership'



AGAINST SELL-OFF: UKIP candidate Vic Matcham on the campaign trail in Dover

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

was "neither for nor against" the sell-off but emphasised development funds were needed.

The three main party candidates are united on an issue that has aroused much local anger, especially over any proposed sale to a French consortium.

Mr Brigden said: "As it stands, I am against the sale of the port, but I'm open-minded as to future plans, depending on what it would give the people of Dover."

The port board has applied for voluntary privatisation to invest more into infrastructure.

Despite his party's recent proposing of the sell-off idea, Labour's Mr Prosser said: "There's no way the board's current submission can make any progress. It's dead in the water – and a good thing, too."

Mr Elphicke is also opposed to privatisation. He said: "I am dead against the sell-off and the Conservatives have pledged a review that I hope will stop this plan."

For more on the views of Gwyn Prosser, Charlie Elphicke, John Brigden, Lord Pearson, the RMT's Malcolm Dunning and port boss Bob Goldfield, go to www.yourkenttv.com.



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THE UPRISE: This worm's-eye view of Ian Morrison's Invicta sculpture model gives an idea of how it could look

Artist calls for hilltop Invicta

■ BY NICK AMES

PLANS for a giant Invicta white horse on the hills between Dover and Folkestone have been put forward by an east Kent artist and sculptor.

Ian Morrison, from Wingham, wants a Spirit Of The South to rival the Angel Of The North as a tourist attraction.

He says the hills are the perfect location for the 100ft-tall statue as it would be visible to visitors arriving in the UK by sea and he wants it up in time for the London Olympics in 2012. Kent County Council says it is considering the proposal.

"It started when I saw the design for the horse sculpture near Ebbsfleet, which has been agreed upon," said Mr Morrison.

"I was angry, really. That's not a Kentish horse. The Invicta emblem is a stallion, it's on its hind legs and it's white, not a sort of brownish-white. So I made a carving of what I considered to be a true Kentish horse and showed it to friends."

The idea has gained support and Mr Morrison has spoken to local authorities and environmental groups.

He has also approached Kent County Council with his proposal and says he has received encouraging responses.

He has also contacted Dover District Council and the National Trust.

"The north has Antony Gormley's Angel and other counties have carvings in the hillsides – but what Kent has is unique."

"The white horse was a cap badge of the Royal West Kent Regiment and I remember the soldiers wearing it with pride."



HIGH HORSE: Ian Morrison with his design

"It's been the badge of the fire service, the police, KCC itself and many companies and businesses."

About £2 million is the estimated cost of the steel structure, which Mr Morrison says would last for at least two centuries.

He is proposing to collect funds by inscribing the names of backers on the mane and tail – with large donors having their details printed on the hooves.

"That way everyone who contributed would be recognised," said Mr Morrison. "I realise the money will have to be raised this way as there will be no public funds made available."

Alex King, Kent County Council's deputy leader, said: "It's an exciting idea and would be great for Kent."

"Although KCC cannot invest substantial public funds in such a project, we will do all we can to help Mr Morrison."

Mott captures town life through her lens

Deal photographer Liz Mott has compiled a book and exhibition of snaps of the town's people – from artists and shopkeepers to musicians and dignitaries.

It has been on show at the Astor Theatre as the first exhibition in the revamped venue. The pictures will now be shown at other places in Deal before touring the county. A book collection of all the photographs is available to buy.

"I wanted to show the diverse nature of our community," said Ms Mott. "We have such a wide variety of people in Deal."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The contraband crackers

BORDER Control officers based in Kent helped seize illegal drugs valued at more than £237 million in just one year.

They also helped prevent 27,000 weapons from reaching the streets, as well as 557 million smuggled cigarettes, representing a loss in tax revenue of £109m.

Launched in April 2009, the UK Border Agency was formed when Customs and Immigration united as a single body.

Regional director Tony Smith said: "The public expects us to keep the UK safe from drugs, illegal immigration and contraband. That's why we have a strong new force."

It is based in Dover and also has offices in the French towns of Calais, Coquelles, Dunkerque and Boulogne.

More than a million freight vehicles have been searched at British border controls in France and Belgium, with 29,000 illegal attempts to cross the Channel thwarted.

Pensioner misses the boat

AN ELDERLY woman was accidentally abandoned in the back of a parked car when her relatives went on a day-trip to France, Port of Dover Police have revealed in a monthly report.

Officers received a call from two people on board a ferry as it left Dover.

The pair had left their vehicle in a multi-storey car-park ahead of the trip, forgetting that their elderly relative was still inside.

Details of the incident, which happened in March, have just come to light in the force's monthly report.

The elderly woman was cared for by officers until the pair returned four hours later.

Injured climber in airlift

A CLIMBER who lives near Dover was airlifted to hospital after falling 25ft from a rock face while on a trip to the Peak District.

The 48-year-old man, from East Langdon, suffered injuries to his back and pelvis in the accident at Stanage Edge, near Hathersage, Derbyshire.

Fifteen members of the Buxton and Edale rescue teams took part in the operation, on Friday, April 9.

The man was carried down from the hills and taken by air-ambulance to hospital.

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Exhibition aims to record faces of the real Deal

■ BY NICK AMES

THE artists, actors, craftsmen, shopkeepers, fishermen and miners of Deal are being immortalised in a sepia photographic exhibition.

Liz Mott, who lives in the town, has put together an exhibition entitled Real Deal – Great Faces Of Deal And Environs.

It was one of the first events at an Astor Theatre display that closed on Sunday before being taken on a tour of the county.

Liz said: "It's a celebration of an ancient and modern community. It depicts youth and age and includes relative newcomers and old Dealites."

"The town has drawn to it many talented people in the arts – photographers, writers, actors and actresses, as well as singers and musicians.

"But there is another community of fishermen, former miners, tradesmen and women and community workers.

"Both complement each other and make Deal



the very special place it is. The influx of people from outside has not spoilt the town. It remains real – hence the name of the exhibition."

Liz has family in the area and knew Kent before working in public relations in London.

She then pursued her interest in photography, taking shots of models, interiors and family portraits before moving to the coast and embarking on her task to preserve images of the people of Deal.

Included in the collection are national names



FASCINATING: One of the sepia photographs taken by Liz Mott, left, to record the people of the Deal area

such as best-selling author Frances Fyfield, who has a home overlooking the beach.

"I used the sepia tint as it is timeless and that is how I wanted my pictures to look," she said.

"An amazing cross-section of people have been drawn to Deal. Maybe it's because there is just one road in and one road out. It's not on the way to anywhere.

"When I got to the town I was excited by what I found. Many people who have lived here for years don't know what a fascinating place it is."

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Does your firm think in green?

THE search is on to find companies in the Dover, Deal and Sandwich area that place the environment at the top of their business agenda.

Now in their 22nd year, the Environment Awards for Kent Business celebrate organisations of all sizes and from all sectors for their environmental excellence. The deadline for entries is Friday, April 30.



Alex Green, right, sustainable business programme manager at Kent County Council, said: "We want to hear from any company that has minimised its impact on the environment or has had a positive impact in the community. Marketing your green credentials can help you gain a competitive edge."

A short-list of 12 organisations will receive a visit from the judging panel and the top five entries, as well as the Kent Environment Business Of The Year 2010, will be recognised at a black-tie awards ceremony on Thursday, September 30.

Nick Chard, KCC member for environment, highways and waste, said: "Organisations that have entered the awards in the past have proved that huge cost savings can be made through environmental best practice."

The awards are sponsored by Kent County Council, E.ON, Business Support Kent CIC and the Environment Agency.

Tim Pyke, head of climate change for E.ON, said: "This is the second consecutive year we have been involved with the awards."



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QUESTION & ANSWER

PHIL LAYTON



Q & A

Phil Layton, church pastor of The Salvation Army's Hythe branch, speaks to **James Alexandre** about his family history with the organisation, community activities and reading the New Testament in a year

Q Tell us a little about yourself

A My full title is Captain Phil Layton, Corps Officer, church pastor, at The Salvation Army for the district of Hythe, Saltwood, Lympne, Dymchurch and Romney Marsh.

I am married to Karen, who shares this ministry, and we have two children. I have a BA in religious studies from Kent University and a degree in theology from London University. I have written two books published by The Salvation Army: *The Sacraments And The Bible* and *The Rapture*.

Q How did you become involved in The Salvation Army?

A My parents were officers – as were their parents – so being involved came naturally. There comes a time when one has to make decisions regarding their own life and it was clear that God wanted me to serve by being a full-time minister within this church.

I thoroughly enjoy my work, which began in 1998 as I went into training in London, prior to being appointed at Swanage, Dorset, in 2000 and then to Hythe since 2003. Previously I was a multimedia presentations designer for a software firm in Canterbury.

Q What is it you do within the organisation?

A I have a dual role. Firstly, I am a church pastor, a minister to our congregation, to

the members of the various clubs and activities within our branch, and to the community.

Secondly, I am a lecturer at the William Booth College in London, where trainee pastors are taught academic and practical disciplines to receive a diploma. The topic I teach is an introductory course to The New Testament.

I am also a member of the Moral And Social Issues Council, where we develop official statements on social and ethical concerns. I am also a member of the International Doctrine Council, whose job it is to protect, develop and deliver the beliefs of our church around the world.

Q Tell us about the activities at the Hythe branch

A We have two parent-and-toddler groups, run by Karen with help from volunteers. On Wednesdays we have a club for older people, which is great fun as we pick a topic each week, tell jokes, sing songs, include a time to reflect and enjoy each others' company.

Senior musicians meet on Tuesday and on Wednesday we have practice for those just learning to play instruments. On Sundays we have our regular weekly church service from 10am, followed by refreshments and then KidZone for those aged three to 12. We also have a football club which has split into two groups and competes in a local Saturday league.

For details of any of these activities, visit

our website, www.hynesalvationarmy.org.uk.

We also host the Shepway Community Gospel Choir, which meets once a month at our hall and performs around Shepway and beyond throughout the year. Details are at www.shepwaycommunitygospelchoir.org.uk.

Then we have activities whenever the need arises, such as during the Folkestone earthquake or the London Tube bombings.

Locally, we regularly receive calls from social services asking for help with food parcels and other one-off difficulties. This becomes particularly prominent during Christmas. We provide a five-course dinner on Christmas Day for anyone who would otherwise be struggling or alone. This is held at our main hall in Portland Road, Hythe.

Q Tell us about your New Testament reading challenge

A We have issued a challenge to our church to read through the New Testament within one year, starting on March 1 and ending next February, by following a simple Bible-reading plan which is available on our website [www.hynesalvationarmy.org.uk/bible.htm].

This invitation was accepted by our own church, but it has grown to having several hundred participants across the world, including in India, the USA, Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the Caribbean.

The challenge involves reading five chapters of the New Testament each week.

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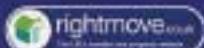
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R·I·V·A·L·S

Lifeboat recruit is back on board after 20 years

■ BY NICK AMES

NEW RNLI crewman Jack Gimber is following his father Mick in joining the Dover lifeboat crew.

However, Jack, 20, is no stranger to lifeboats – as a baby he was Christened aboard Dover's previous vessel, with the bell used as the font.

He doesn't remember his baptism in 1990 aboard RNLB Rotary Service, but he is already settling in at the lifeboat station learning the skills needed to be a competent crew-member.

His father Mick works for P&O and joined the lifeboat crew in 1987 after hearing and seeing stories of the Herald Of Free Enterprise tragedy. He decided that he wanted to do something useful to assist those in trouble at sea.

He gave more than 15 years of service, during which time he rose to become the lifeboat's Second Mechanic.

Mick has many memories from rescue incidents, but two stand out from the rest.

The first was taking the current Dover lifeboat RNLB City of London II up to London for the vessel to be visited by people from the City who had raised much of the money to fund it – before meeting politician John Prescott.

The second was when the Dover crew was invited to escort the flotilla of Dunkirk Little Ships to France and represent the RNLI at the 60th anniversary of the Dunkirk evacuation.



LIFEBOAT SERVICE: Mick Gimber with son Jack, and below, at Jack's baptism on the RNLB Rotary Service in 1990

Mick said: "I'm extremely proud that Jack has chosen to follow in my footsteps."

"He has learned a lot and, whether he serves for one year or 20, he will never forget the pride and crew camaraderie of being part of a close-knit team helping people in need."

Jack said: "Joining the lifeboat crew is something that I've wanted to do since I was young. Growing up, hearing the stories of rescues, I was always proud that Dad was helping people and now I hope that I can do my bit."



War memorial gets beer-festival boost

A CHEQUE for £500 has been presented to the Dover War Memorial Project by local members of real-ale group CAMRA.

The project aims to bring together the names of all residents of the town who have died as a result of conflict.

As more people are identified, new names are added to the memorial and a new plaque is scheduled to be put up in 2012.

Already the names of 16 more local people who fell in wars have been uncovered and will be remembered.

The project has so far commemorated the names of more than 2,000 Dover residents and they are all put together on an online virtual memorial.

The money raised for the memorial came from the White Cliffs Beer Festival.

Council office finds new base at library

DOVER District Council's Deal area office has moved from the town hall in the high street to Deal library, in the town's Broad Street.

Opening times for the area office are now 9am-5pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The office does not accept payments for any council services and these should be made at a local post office, online or by direct debit.

Anyone who requires more information should see the 'making payments' and 'area office change' pages on Dover council's website at www.dover.gov.uk.



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Solitary symbols of Marsh life

■ BY MARIKE COX

THEY once dominated the marshes, a symbol of a thriving sheep-farming industry and shelter for the men who tended the flocks.

But some 200 years later, all that remains of the 350 lookers' huts in Romney Marsh are 16 rundown buildings, left to ruin since the agricultural heyday of the 1800s.

The shepherds who stayed in them were known as lookers, who watched over the masses of Romney sheep owned by absentee landlords.

Travelling long distances and needing to be close to the flocks at pasture meant being away from home, so they would take shelter in the small buildings dotted across the marshes.

But after the Second World War, much of the land was ploughed and the large flocks never returned, with the huts falling into ruin as fewer lookers were needed.

To capture the history of the lookers' lonely life, photographer Nigel P Crick, from Littlestone, has released a book of photographs showing the last remaining huts.

He said: "I was touring the marshes and I came across one of them and thought how interesting it was.

"I found out what it was and did a bit of homework to try and find some others, and it went from there. They're all very different and quirky in their own way, and exclusive to Kent and East Sussex."

"There are similar buildings for the same purpose in Wales, but lookers and the huts of this kind were unique to this area."

The buildings were usually built of brick, with a chimney at one end and a pitched Kent peg-tile roof.

Most were about ten feet square, big



HEAVING WITH HERITAGE: Lookers' huts at, from left, Churchlands Farm, Dymchurch and Cliff Marsh Farm provide an enduring reminder of a lost way of life on the fascinating flatlands of Romney Marsh

enough for a sleeping area and hearth for the looker, plus storage for tools. Sick sheep would sometimes also be kept there to recover. Mr Crick, who has settled on Romney Marsh with his wife and daughter, said: "It would be a temporary shelter for the lookers.

"It was often too far for them to travel home each day, so they would need somewhere to stay.

"It was a lonely life, but these huts would provide a place for them to sleep and eat."

Mr Crick, who runs Gallery Twenty One on Romney Marsh, wanted to photograph the huts before they became derelict.

Some remain standing, with their roofs and chimneys intact, while others are little more than piles of bricks.

"Each one is unique," he said. "When I first came across one two or three years ago I didn't know what it was, but I wanted to find out more.

"After some research I realised there were others and I wanted to make a record of them. I hope people will find the pictures as interesting as I do."

- Click on orders@orcabookservices.co.uk, or call 01202 665432, to order a copy of the book (£8.99).
- Images available from www.gallerytwentyone.co.uk

Disgust as Southern Water pumps sewage into rivers

VILLAGERS have voiced their disgust at living in what they describe as "Third World" conditions after sewage was pumped into east Kent rivers.

Southern Water has been releasing raw sewage into the Nailbourne and the Little Stour at Bishopsbourne, Patricbourne, Bekesbourne and Littlebourne.

This began after sewage came up plug-holes and toilets in some of the villages.

A Patricbourne resident, who lives close to the river, said: "In this day and age something should be done. I don't want to live in a Third World country with raw sewage floating by."

"It's such a shame because the river came back on March 18 and there were people down here walking along it, appreciating how beautiful it looks."

"There were people and dogs playing in it and then, a few days later, sewage was being pumped into it."

There have been reports of dogs and children who played by the river having upset stomachs. Warning notices have been put up, but there are long stretches with no signs.

Some homeowners were unaware of the sewage passing their back gardens.

The Nailbourne runs only when the water table is high enough. In 2000 it burst its banks and some homes were flooded.

Canterbury councillor Tony Austin, chairman of the Little Stour and Nailbourne River Management Group, said: "We met Southern Water after the big floods and they said they were going to sort out the sewer."

"Unfortunately, not a lot has happened.



OVERFLOWING: Water table has raised the Nailbourne

The group is not happy. We pay our water bills and deserve better."

A spokesman for Southern Water said: "After the serious flooding in 2001, we carried out comprehensive sewer-relining works.

"This winter, the Nailbourne catchment has received over 258 per cent of its seasonal average rainfall. If the water table is too high, water can get into our system through pipe joints on both the public and private sewers and drains.

"If we did not remove this, wastewater could overflow from manholes in roads, gardens, public places and even in homes.

"Pumping into the river is the last resort and only carried out in discussion with the Environment Agency."

Southern Water said the sewage was diluted and screened and people faced no increased health risks if they took "normal basic hygiene precautions".



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BREAK TIME

Table-topping food

PENT Valley Technology College in Folkestone has been chosen as one of 20 flagship schools to be recognised nationally for food quality and education.

Taking up the challenge laid down by Jamie Oliver's school-dinners campaign, the Food For Life Partnership, which runs the scheme, has been funded by the Lottery since 2007 to help transform food culture in schools.

The partnership will help Pent Valley put more fresh, local and organic food on the menu and get pupils, parents and community groups cooking, growing food and visiting farms and businesses.

The school will aim to achieve a Gold Mark, which will put it at the top of the table on food culture. Its catering team will get help obtaining at least 75 per cent fresh, 50 per cent local and 30 per cent organic ingredients for school meals.

For one week it will host the Food For Life Partnership cooking bus and a garden-education officer will help the school develop an organic growing area.

Holiday arts camp

PUPILS from across Shepway took part in an Easter-holiday arts camp to learn about dance, drama, singing and acting.

The workshops were used to create a performance piece or display and recorded using photos, podcasts and scrapbooks.

The children also visited Tate Modern in London before sharing what they had learnt with friends and family in the theatre at Brockhill Park Performing Arts College, where the camp was held.

The students then received bronze art awards, becoming the first in the district to do so. The event was organised by Shepway's Extended Schools Team.

College natural-born dancers moving in the right direction

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

BOYS at Brockhill Park Performing Arts College are leading the way in contemporary dance and changing the school's culture in the process, according to its vice-principal.

Jackie Mortimer said a previous headteacher 12 years ago had seen the potential for establishing a dedicated dance department and the results were beginning to show.

"Our head at the time was very supportive of wanting dance to move out of the PE area and become a department within its own right," she said. "This changing point ensured all boys took part in dance."

She said male students quickly grasped the concepts of learning by doing what suited them and within just two years a group of influential boys formed their own dance company called Male Order, which built a fan base and made it 'cool' to be a dancer.

Ms Mortimer said: "Boys are naturals at dance. They are physically stronger than girls and with the right environment and the right teacher they excel."

"Dance is also an excellent environment for encouragement and praise, which is also particularly helpful when teaching boys and raising their self-esteem and achievement."

Dance at Brockhill is well known for being physical, rigorous and hard work.

A-level students regularly spend up to 20 hours a week rehearsing, often in their own time. This gives the boys a clear structure and fosters teamwork and commitment, with

Picture: TONY NARDI



NATURAL TALENT: The Brockhill Park boys have excelled at contemporary dance and changed the school's culture

younger students inspired by the older boys.

This has culminated in plenty of dance success for Brockhill, with former students Kai Downham and Matt Rees on a national tour with the Ballet Boyz and receiving excellent reviews. The Saltwood school is the only one to have two boys in the company. Founded by Michael Nunn and William Trevitt after they left the Royal Ballet, the company quickly became a dance phenomenon.

The newly-recruited second generation of Ballet Boyz, of which Kai and Matt are part, is getting a fast-track apprenticeship.

Its first touring programme, The Talent, showcases challenging and daring work and is coupled with an education programme that the Ballet Boyz themselves deliver.

Ms Mortimer said she was delighted with her past students' success and said this year's class was also flying the flag for boys' dance.

Danny Baker and Sam Harbour in year 13 are national finalists in the Young Creatives Choreographic Competition and have just performed at the Royal Opera House.

This is the same competition in which Kai and Matt were spotted for the Ballet Boyz.

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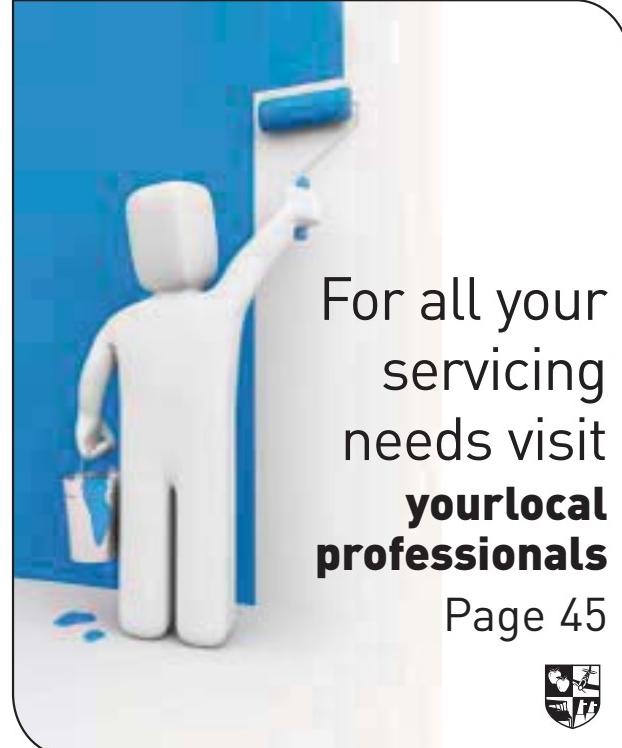
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REFURBISHMENT SALE

1000'S VISIT LENLEYS, CANTERBURY'S PREMIER FURNITURE STORE

Crowds have flocked in their hundreds to the first day of the Lenleys £1,000,000 refurbishment Sale in Canterbury to snap up the bargains on sale. Over five thousand people, enticed by the thought of quality furniture at once in a lifetime prices, went through the doors of the family furnishing store.

"The response from our customers has been amazing", said Managing Director Jonathan Watts. "We knew that we would be busy, but the first day was beyond our wildest dreams. Our customers were delightful, showing a lot of patience as well as good humour. I

think that all in all, they went home happy and many with a super bargain." The business, founded in 1936, will soon embark on a renovation of their store, which will include a new frontage, new displays and a landscaped car park. To make space for the contractors in anticipation of the work, Lenleys are selling off many displays and surplus stock.

The sale is about to finish shortly and Jonathan Watts added, "I would encourage a visit as soon as possible to see quality furniture at fantastic prices, as the stock is going fast."



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yourletters



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YOUR LETTERS

Remembrance Line will benefit town

With regard to last week's story about plans for a Shepway Metro, at least the Remembrance Line Association is hoping to do something that could benefit all of Folkestone – unlike the plans of Folkestone Harbour Company.

Who would be able to afford the luxury apartments that are planned?

The station is important and has to be kept as a station so that one day ferries could come back.

Remove the station and you lose that option.

Martin Butler
Folkestone

- Having researched such a scheme a few years ago, the Parry People Mover comes in a low-floor version and a heritage styling is possible, should that be more in keeping with the environment. Therefore nothing as elaborate as a former station would be needed for the project.

John Hamilton
Lympne

War-memorial plan is a fitting tribute

It seems to me that the planned Dover war memorial is designed sensitively to attract a new generation of people to commemorate the losses of the world wars.

The memorial makes it intensely personal to almost every family in the country.

It would be a shame if the 'business case' issues required to fund such an ambitious undertaking were to colour the perception of this rededication of national appreciation for the sacrifices made for our freedoms.

It is beautiful and fitting and must go ahead.

Chris Precious
Dover

- Maya Lin's Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington DC reveals the substantive and emotional impact of a visible listing of those US citizens killed in the Vietnam conflict.

To commemorate the many more fatalities suffered during the First and Second World Wars, this country deserves at least the same.

At the front line of our defences in both conflicts, Dover is the ideal site for John Pegg's brilliant concept of 12 white granite walls looking out to the English Channel.

David Foley
Canterbury

- Although I am not resident in England now, I retain membership of English Heritage.

I have recently completed a Masters thesis about First World War memorials in and around Cape Town. It seems to me that the proposed memorial at Dover is

yourblogger

Gary Wright feels the many police TV reality shows mete out the wrong message to criminals



I'M A bit of a reluctant addict for the many fly-on-the-wall cop shows pumped out and repeated by satellite TV stations.

You've been there: flicking through the stations trying to find something to watch and you alight upon a car chase through a council estate, filmed from the front grille of a police car. Brilliant.

There are loads: Sky Cops, Police Stop!, Traffic Cops, Police Camera Action!... the list goes on and on.

They are really cheap to make and sadly police forces across Britain must be queuing up to get the free publicity that goes with these reality shows.

For real danger the producers often need to drop in some footage from the US, where a driver is just as likely to step out of the car unloading his 9mm pistol.

Back in the UK, Sgt Sid Nobody gets a hunch that there's something not quite right with the driver of the battered old Nissan Micra with multi-coloured doors and treadless tyres.

And look, tin foil on the floor – "drug paraphernalia," our expert sergeant assures the viewer.

Sure enough, the painfully-thin driver, with pupils the size of two-pence pieces and a face littered with acne, turns out to be a heroin addict. He gets nicked.

A job well done then, boys... But is it?

Answer, no. Most of these petty criminals or unfortunate seems to receive ridiculously light sentences. In another show, I watched one young fella lead chasing police a merry dance in his mum's car

running off the road and with sparks coming off the wheels and he took a while to catch. He was banned and received a community service order.

I watched another oik chased on the motorway for refusing to pull over. He pulled a couple of – in my opinion – quite stylish driving stunts as he attempted to give FOUR police cars the slip only to be caught eventually. He was already banned, so he got a fine and extension – but no prison term.

These people should be locked up. Of course, the programmes have no time to research the court case and give background because the commentator has to move onto the next "amazing" footage.

The police involved seem to take themselves far too seriously and the 'criminals' they catch are mostly low-life trash who today's society seem to believe need a second, third and fourth chance before they see the inside of a prison cell.

No, these TV cops need to catch some real criminals, proper bad people doing terrible things who are then forced to face the full wrath of the law.

Imagine how Police Stop! would have handled the arrest of the pet-shop-owner who sold a goldfish to a 15-year-old boy – she was fined £1,000 and is electronically tagged as well. That's punishment.

Or the experienced, fully-taxed and insured biker doing 122mph who was jailed for six months and banned from driving. See, there's justice.

Telly blokes, take note. Politicians, let's get some reality in our legal system (and ban police from reality shows).

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering, call the editor, **Dave Mairs**, on 01303 817022, or email him on the details above.

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And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town, log on to www.kentnews.co.uk.

designed to become a tourist attraction rather than serving a primary function, which is to remember those who fell.

Their names are recorded across the world. In addition the CWGC is vigilant in maintaining the dignity of countless war graves and memorials.

Helen Binckes
South Africa

Border Agency staff are not celebrating

Re. the story 'UK Border Agency celebrates its first anniversary' (www.kentnews.co.uk).

Mmm ... celebrate! I'm sure that's not how any of my former colleagues see it.

Having recently left HM Customs after 20 years' service, I visited my former office, where not a single person said the service had improved since the merger – and all said I was better off out of it.

They also don't announce the recent threat of job cuts.

Celebrate? I think not.

Former Customs officer
Dover

Electoral reform the only way to change

With the election approaching, it seems to me that it's the same old same old this time around: 'We'll run things better than the other

lot'. Meanwhile, the real issues get pushed out by all the mud-slinging, false (usually) promises and general waffle.

In my area, Folkestone, it's a virtual certainty who will walk it.

One early online poll I've seen shows 55 per cent won't vote. Also, with no proportional representation it makes things even worse, since I cannot even put an alternative.

The main contenders to the Tories are the Liberal Democrats, but the Green Party is also likely to stand. Under PR I could at least 'one-two' them either way, but not with the current system (though even this would be unlikely to affect outcome).

My issues would be the cancelling of ID cards, cutting the surveillance state, cancelling Trident and transferring the likely £150 billion-odd into the Green New Deal and public transport and dealing with the social and economic reasons that people may get into trouble in the first place.

Also breaking up the banks and turning most into social-enterprise models and setting up the Tobin (Robin Hood) tax to help the developing world – bypassing governments there as far as possible.

However, under the current set-up, none of the above is likely to be that far up on the agendas for Necon Labour or the Tories (even allowing for promises, promises).

Is it any wonder we hear people saying they won't vote?

Ray Duff
Folkestone

volunteering by millions

- E-borders: detailed information on travellers passed around Government departments
- DNA database: another (largely ineffective) record just in case someone might do something wrong.
- Communication monitoring: records kept of telephone and internet use.

There is and will be more.

Ian Taylor
Dover NO2ID

• I really cannot understand the mentality of anyone even considering voting anything other than Conservative at the next election.

Imagine you bought a new car from the only garage in town and over the past few years, in spite of your car being serviced regularly by this garage, it has got worse and worse until it is barely running at all.

All of a sudden, a new garage opens for business.

Do you stick with the original garage, responding to the owner's plea of 'Give us a second chance, guy, we'll put it all right, but no, we still use the same mechanics and we haven't got any new machines', or do you go to the new guys and put your trust in the new team and new machines?

There really is no room for discussion at the end of the day.

Is there?

Alistair
comment on www.kentnews.co.uk

• The first 50 organisations to have contacted Kent Green Party's ten General Election candidates included 20 campaigning about health care.

This is not a ringing endorsement of health promotion or health care in the UK today.

That we appear to need so many charities to fill gaps left by the National Health Service is disturbing.

Patchwork provision means many people may not have their needs attended to. Quality of life with many conditions depends upon early diagnosis.

While NHS health-promotion schemes have improved, far more checks on individual health need to occur in GP surgeries.

This will save money in the long run, but more importantly it will increase both quality of life and longevity.

Clearly, as a country with alarming levels of obesity and alcohol abuse, there is a lot more people can do to help themselves.

Apart from cutting their own food and alcohol bills, making walking and cycling part of weekly routines would do wonders for many people.

Dr Hazel Dawe
Kent Green Party

Go Invicta, go!

Well done to Neil Cugley and the lads at Folkestone Invicta Football Club for their great efforts this season.

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Nick Coates
Folkestone

Price worries lead to organic slump

KENT'S organic farmers have backed the findings of a new report showing a rapid decline in the demand for the food products.

As the effects of the recession continue to bite, a report found sales of organic food, drink and other products slumped by almost 13 per cent last year.

Producers are finding consumers are shying away from organically-grown products such as vegetables because they tend to be more expensive.

With all the belt-tightening going on, organic farmers in Kent are feeling those effects, too.

Alan Brockman helps run Perry Court Farm in Petham, near Canterbury. He said the farm used to supply a couple of dozen restaurants in the region but many had gone out of business.

Mr Brockman, a partner in the company, said: "We have had very difficult times because we have had a lot of bad debts."

"That hasn't helped at all. It's all part of this recession. You need pretty good credit ratings to survive these days. We have had to contract quite a lot."

Gerry Minister has run Luddesdown Organic Farm since 1986 and was one of the movement's pioneers.

He said: "People do think organic foods are more expensive, and at one time they were."

"But these days there is very little between them, so cost really is not that big an issue these days."

"However, it is true that the price does appear very different by the time the products reach the supermarket shelves."

"If people came to our farm shop they'd find the prices are almost the same."

Malaria fear as tropical mosquitoes stow away

■ BY MARIJKE COX

MOSQUITOES found in the Kent marshes could help spread an outbreak of malaria when holiday-makers unknowingly bring parasites home from the tropics.

Although experts say the risk is low, a groundbreaking study, one of the first since malaria was eradicated from the UK in the 1950s, is being undertaken to create control strategies against potentially dangerous mosquitoes.

Dr Yvonne-Marie Linton, a biomedical researcher from The Natural History Museum, has been working at Cliffe Marshes on the Hoo peninsula north of Rochester, where a specific type of the insect is found.

Known as *Anopheles daciae*, it is one of 70 of the 3,525 species capable of transmitting malaria.

After the Second World War, this species caused the spread of the disease within schools in the county as they bit homebound soldiers who were carrying the malarial parasite.

Dr Linton said her study would assess their biology. "By knowing the enemy and where they breed, targeted mosquito-control strategies can be deployed against only those potentially dangerous mosquitoes," she said.



BUZZ OFF: Mosquitoes have been found at Cliffe Marshes

Malaria, which affects some 500 million people worldwide each year and kills two million, was eliminated completely from the UK after the World Health Organisation launched the Global Malaria Eradication Programme in 1955.

In Africa, however, the disease remains a massive problem, with one child dying from it every 30 seconds.

It is spread by *Anopheles* mosquitoes – such as those that have been found in Kent – carrying the plasmodium parasite.

In the UK, malaria died out in the 1950s, but the growth of global travel means cases are now becoming more common.

Dr Linton said: "Possible routes of reintroduction into the UK include travellers

returning with malaria and stowaway mosquitoes.

"As well as our own discovery of *Anopheles*, another new species has recently been discovered in southern England by other researchers and this means we are not clear on the distribution on our shores."

"This in part is due to the notion that since we no longer have malaria here we do not need to worry about our mosquitoes in the UK."

"Given that mosquitoes can potentially spread other diseases, such as dengue and West Nile virus, we still need to be vigilant and create a plan of action should these diseases become a problem in the future."

Dr Linton said that by carrying out the study, potentially dangerous mosquitoes could be stopped by using DNA samples to target the *Anopheles* capable of carrying malaria.

It means the malaria transmission cycle can be broken, lessening the risk of a spread of the disease.

A study by the Health Protection Agency found more than 6,000 cases of the most dangerous form – falciparum malaria – in the UK between 2002 and 2006, which was blamed on people returning from tropical countries.

Although treatable by several different medicines in the UK, for poorer countries, funding is not available for drugs and preventative measures against the disease.

Symptoms of malaria include headaches, high temperatures, diarrhoea and muscle pain.

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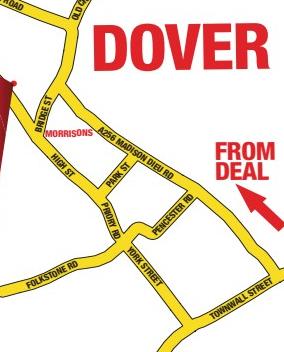
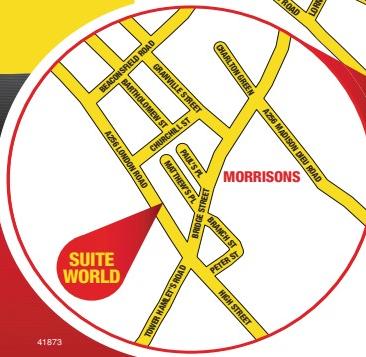
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Based in London these designers and manufacturers of die stamped stationary, produce stationary using traditional hand engraved copper and steel dies.

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This textile company is based in Bristol and was launched with the aim of providing a modern twist to country living. All the designs are printed on pure natural linen having been sourced from within the UK and great care is taken to support high quality British manufacturing.

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Carol Ridler Hand Crafted Wood is a totally rural enterprise producing wooden pieces for decoration inspired by English country life. Founded in 2006 by Carol who lives and works in an old farming village overlooking the Vale of Belvoir with her chocolate labrador 'Dougal'.

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Lucy Tom based in Cirencester Wiltshire, started as a home curtain/blind making business, but with so many offcuts this dynamic entrepreneur has created a new doorstop business. Using quirky and original designs, now famous for their chickens and scotty dogs.

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As a family own business, Bougies La Francaise has been in existence since 1902 and been linked with families who are passionate about light and interior decor. They are widely acknowledged as specialists in the creation and manufacture of top of the range decorative and perfumed candles. Together with their eclectic range of modern and traditional candles, Bougies La Francaise also manufacture exquisite decorative items for the home and garden...

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DAY & NIGHT**Folk north of border**

ACCLAIMED singer-songwriter Fraser Nimmo will perform for Faversham Folk Club tonight.

The Scottish artist will combine traditional songs with his own Celtic songs at the Chimney Boy at 8.30pm. Tickets cost £5 for members and £6 for non-members. Admission is free for under-18s. For details visit www.favershamfolkclub.net.

Art show al fresco

A REDUNDANT space in Dover has been animated by artists until May 8.

The former bus depot in Russell Street has been revived with video, projections, sound and installations. The free exhibition is accessible from dawn to dusk every day. It will also be open to the public from noon to 3pm on Saturday and on May 1 and 8.

Acting for youngsters

MARLOWE Youth Theatre is encouraging young children to get the acting bug.

Sessions for eight to 11-year-olds will start at St Stephen's Junior School in Hales Drive, Canterbury, at 10.30am on Saturday. The term is 13 weeks long with a half-term break and costs £40.

For more information call 01227 787787.

A comedy double act

ENJOY an evening of laughter when Birchington Guild of Players present two one-act comic plays.

The group will perform *The Godsend* by Nina Warner Hook and Gosforth's *Fete* by Alan Ayckbourn at The Centre in Alpha Road at 7.30pm on Thursday and Friday. An interval supper will be served. Tickets cost £6. To book call 01843 843687.

Curtain up on laughs

A HARASSED theatre manager must cope with a multitude of problems in the comic play, *Curtain Call*.

Bettine Manktelow's comedy is at the Astor Community Theatre in Deal at 7.30pm from Thursday to Saturday. Tickets cost £8/£7 and are available from the Sound House in Deal High Street on 01304 381134.

Join fun at music hall

STEP back in time to enjoy the nostalgia of Victorian music hall at the Memorial Theatre in Broadstairs on Saturday.

The Marley Players present an evening of good old-fashioned entertainment with audience participation. Tickets cost £6.50 for Sarah Thorne Theatre Club members and £8.50 for non-members who must book 24 hours in advance. Call 0845 262 6263.

Sax top of bill at Grand

AWARD-WINNING saxophonist Alan Barnes will perform at The Grand in Folkestone on Thursday.

The jazz icon is joined in the Kepells Music Room by keyboardist Nick Peck, bass player Alex Keene and drummer Rod Brown. The music starts at 8.30pm and admission costs £6. For more information call 01303 277175.

Ripping yarn not for faint-hearted

DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE

Friday, April 23, Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



GOOD battles evil for the human soul in *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.

European Arts Company presents an exciting new version of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story, which sees an amiable doctor take his experiments too far. Set in Victorian London, the tale finds out what happens when Dr Jekyll succeeds in separating his better self from his dark half, unleashing a monster in the form of the abominable Mr Hyde.

The show boasts a connection to a real-life horror – the horrific Whitechapel murders that terrified London in 1888. When American actor Richard Mansfield staged the first theatrical adaptation of the story in London that summer, his production was to be short-lived. Audiences were horrified by the play and spotted parallels with the dreadful murders, leading to Mansfield being questioned as a Jack the Ripper suspect.

When the idea that a doctor could be responsible for the crimes began to circulate, people could see the similarities between fact and fiction. Although he was not prosecuted for the crimes, Mansfield's ordeal and a public debate over the violence of his billboard poster led to the show being shut down.

European Arts Company takes the Ripper connection as its starting point and sets the action in the notorious Ten Bells pub in Whitechapel, the only known connection between the victims.

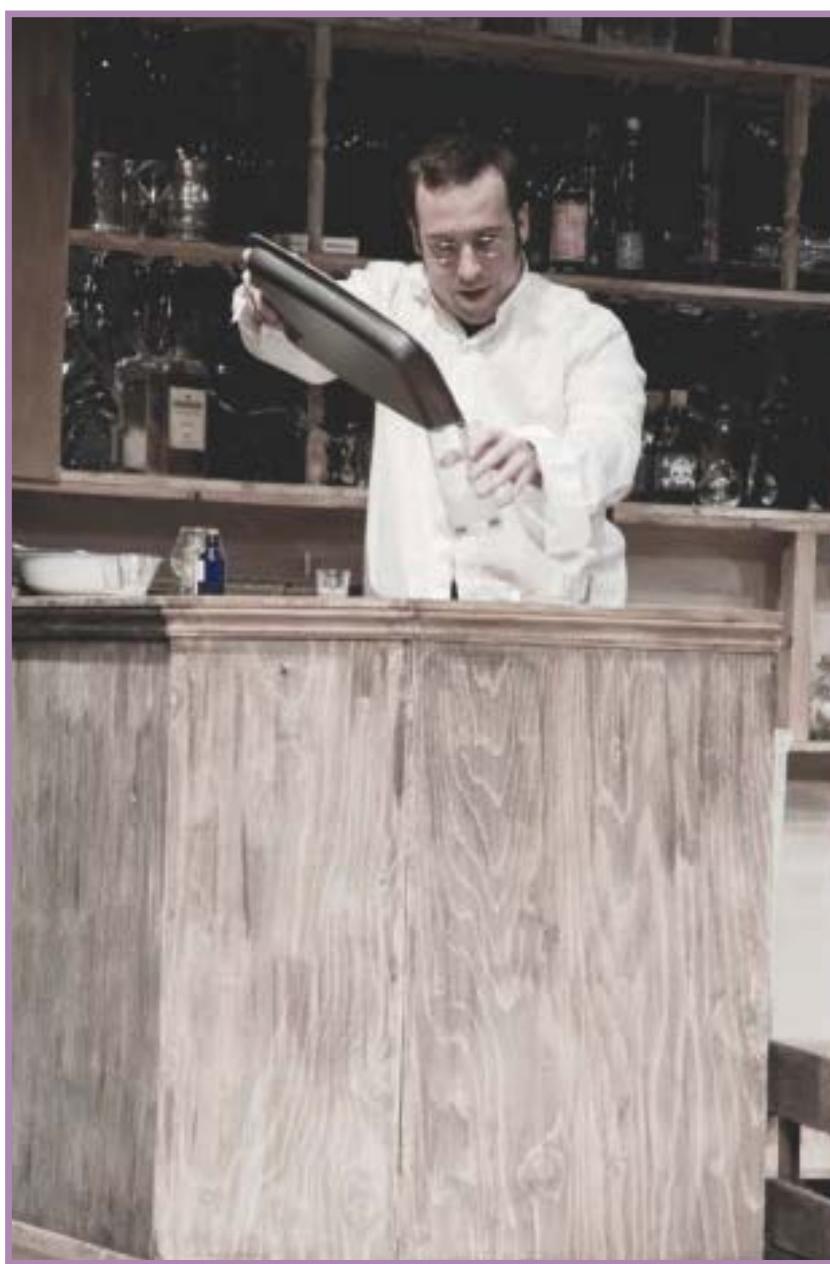
Formed in 2002, European Arts Company is based at the Hazlitt Theatre in Maidstone. Over the years it has undertaken a number of domestic and foreign tours, producing shows such as *The Pickwick Papers* and Chekhov's *Shorts*. The latest production was chosen not only because of its gripping plotline, but also the complex and timeless issues that the story explores.

The company staged a production of *The Picture of Dorian Gray* two years ago, a dark story that explores psychology, personality and sexuality, as well as being a timelessly gripping horror story. Set in much the same world, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* also tackles these issues and raises questions of ethics and morality in science.

Just like their production of *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, European Arts Company has added an extra element of interest with their staging.

The previous show was set in an artist's studio and the actors could tell the story using only the props found in that setting, an idea which has been replicated with the average East End pub as the backdrop.

Using only their imagination and acting skills, the actors are challenged to tell the tale using these simple props and they have proved to be very good at the task, producing everything from a train to a Scottish manor.



Part of the company's aim was to reintroduce people to the story, as it is a classic tale which has entered our common language and many people believe they know what the story is really about.

But if they have not read the book, they might not be truly familiar with the thought-provoking issues that Robert Louis Stevenson explores in this much-loved text.

Whether you are a newcomer to the story or familiar with the book, there is much to enjoy in this thrilling and well-presented show.

The performance starts at 7.45pm and tickets cost £14. To book visit the website at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01227 769075.



TO FIND MORE THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT NEWS LOG ON AT yourkenttv.co.uk



It's survival of the least bored as Law indulges in slow-mo carnage

■ BY DAMON SMITH

WITH life-expectancy increasing steadily, our ageing population makes ever greater demands on the state for medical care.

The utopian dream of a National Health Service struggles to cope and, inevitably, patients are forced to consider private treatment to avoid the weeks, if not months, of distress.

Based on the novel *The repossession Mambo* by Eric Garcia, *Repo Men* is a futuristic thriller that takes that demand for longer, fuller lives to its chilling conclusion.

Men, women and children pay to stay alive and when their credit runs out, the conglomerates that produce artificial organs take back their miracle goods and give them instead to customers with a healthier bank balance.

Survival of the richest.

Miguel Sapochnik's film centres on a powerful organisation called The Union, which is able to provide expensive artificial organs for a five-figure sum.

Patients take out high-interest loans to cover the cost and if they fall three months behind with repayments, repossession men such as Remy (Jude Law) and Jake (Forest Whitaker) arrive unannounced to knock the donor unconscious with a stun-gun before retrieving the valuable organ.

Remy's work causes conflict with his wife Carol and young son Peter, so he considers a transfer to the sales team.

For his final job, he is contracted to retrieve an organ from a famous musician, but the procedure goes wrong and Remy ends up in hospital requiring a artificial heart.

"You owe it to your family. You owe it to yourself," smarms Union manager Frank.

Unable to meet interest rates of almost 20 per cent, Remy falls behind with repayments and pleads for the clemency he never showed any of his targets.

"Take me out of your system," begs Remy.



GLOVES ON: Jude Law, as repo man Remy, prepares to remove a hire-purchase vital organ from a cash-strapped client who had the misfortune to fail on a couple of repayments

"Give me your heart," barks Frank.

Marked for death, Remy goes on the run for his life and he meets singer Beth (Alice Braga), whose body is riddled with artificial organs and joints.

Together, they attempt to bring down The Union.

Repo Men delights in scenes of gore as Remy and Jake scythe open debtors and rip various

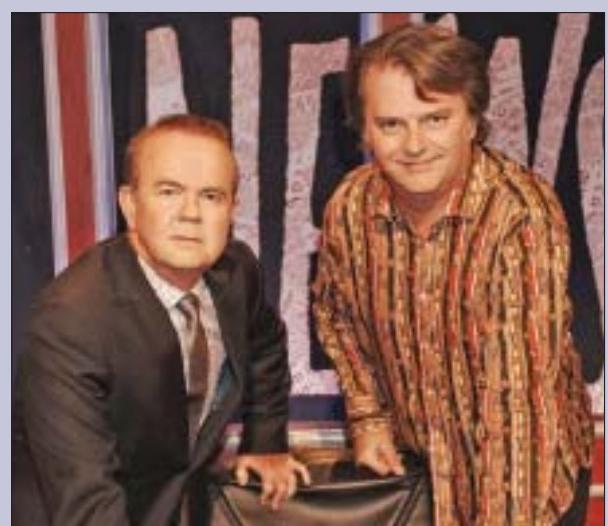
organs from their lifeless bodies. Law convinces as a heartless servant of corporate fat cats, but there's scant emotion in his performance and the romance with Braga's rebel sparks to life in the blink of an eye after Remy has begged forgiveness from his wife.

Oscar-winner Whitaker perspires furiously as he tries to work out why he signed up to such substandard genre fare.

Action scenes are heavy on slow motion to capture arcing arterial spray as Remy takes a hammer, hacksaw and knife to his pursuers.

The film fails to keep audiences gripped and a final-reel twist only prolongs our boredom.

REPO MEN Certificate 18



LONG-RUNNING: Ian Hislop and Paul Merton enter the 39th series



YOUR TV REVIEW HAVE I GOT NEWS FOR YOU: BBC1, 9pm Thursdays

THURSDAY night comedy is back in vogue on the BBC with long-running satirical show *Have I Got News For You* in a new slot.

Now incredibly in its 39th series, having sealed its own place in television folklore, team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton show no signs of flagging.

The new time caught me by surprise while just casually flicking through the channels, on what is usually a stifling evening schedule of *Question Time* followed by *Newsnight* and the *Daily Politics*.

But perhaps this is the Beeb's way of breaking up that monopoly, especially during the relentless course of the election campaign when some light relief is in order.

The first episode kicked off in earnest with comedian Lee Mack breaking off from his nationwide tour

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

to guest-host. Panellists on the first episode, which aired at the start of the month, were Kent-based politician and UKIP leader Nigel Farage together with Scottish comedian Kevin Bridges.

There was no refuge for Farage from the withering put-downs by *Private Eye* editor Hislop.

This inevitably led to a clip of the MEP's tirade against new EU president Herman Van Rompuy, where he accused him of as having all the "charisma of a damp rag" and the "appearance of a low-grade bank clerk".

Bridges was quiet for the first half, but had the audience in stitches towards the end by pointing out that the Tories' use of a Gordon Brown

poster, which mockingly quotes him as saying 'I let 80,000 foreign criminals out early, vote for me' had led to the Conservatives losing themselves potential supporters.

Episodes two started just as brightly, with Alexander Armstrong in the chair. He was joined by columnist Victoria Coren and comedian Richard Herring, sporting his trademark 'Hitler' moustache which forms part of his act.

One of the funniest segments was about the proposed renaming of the English Channel to the Anglo-French pond by Brussels bureaucrats.

This led to a list of other inappropriately-named places such as Funbag Drive in Watford, Crotch Crescent in Oxford and Sandy Balls in the New Forest, where coincidentally I happened to have stayed near to over Easter recently.

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CANTERBURY TALES

Until Saturday, June 5, Canterbury Tales, Canterbury

MEDIEVAL lookalikes have the chance of becoming a millionaire if they resemble one of Geoffrey Chaucer's pilgrims.

Anyone who thinks they resemble one of the larger than life characters at the Canterbury attraction could become a very wealthy person by 14th century standards. A prize of £250, the equivalent of a millionaire's bounty back then, is on offer for the person who most resembles one of Canterbury Tales stars.

"We thought this would be a fun way to celebrate the Tales," said Steve Beer, the attraction's

manager. "All the characters within the Tales stir up a number of emotions with their unique styles and looks and we are sure there must be modern day equivalents out there."

"Not only will the winner take home £250, but they could become the face of the attraction. We look forward to people putting themselves or each other forward."

The judging will take place at the launch of the medieval market on Saturday, June 5.

For more information visit www.canterburytales.org.uk or call 01227 784600.



HOLE PARK SPRING

Ongoing, Hole Park, Rovenden,

DISCOVER spring in all its glory as Hole Park Gardens in Rovenden bursts into seasonal life.

From the cheerful yellow of the daffodils to the gorgeous blue of the scillas, visitors can expect a colourful welcome to the new season.

Although many people will be glad to see the back of the winter, owner Edward Barham believes that the icy conditions may actually improve the spring display.

"The coldest winter in 23 years means some plants could be up to four weeks late, leading them

to burst into flower all together around Easter time and giving an amazing display throughout the gardens and woodland," he said. "The flowering season will be fast and furious this year with spectacular colour squeezed into a shorter time span."

The delights to be seen this spring include the wild flower meadows, camellia, rhododendrons, azaleas and magnolia.

Hole Park is open from 11am to 6pm every day until May 31. To find out more call 01580 241344 or visit the website at www.holepark.com.

RAILTRAILS

Saturday, April 24 and Sunday, April 25, Kent & East Sussex Railway, Tenterden

RAMBLERS can enjoy a cheaper way to discover the countryside with the Kent and East Sussex Railway this weekend.

The Railtrails event gives keen walkers the chance to combine an atmospheric steam railway ride with an exhilarating walk in the country. Whether you are an experienced hiker or a novice who fancies exploring the lovely countryside around Tenterden, Bodiam and Northiam stations, the Railtrails event has a route to suit you.

Everyone who combines a ramble with a train ride can enjoy a 25 per cent discount on single rail fares and will also receive a free Railtrails guide book. Inside the book, they will find a selection of six different walks, complete with maps, and a variety of ways to get around.

Ranging from 2.5-miles to six miles in length, most of the trails are only accessible by railway. But the weekend is not exclusively for ramblers – anyone who does not wish to walk can buy full price rover tickets and enjoy the railway as usual.

To find out more call 01580 765155 or visit www.kesr.org.uk.



JETHRO

Monday, April 26, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



THE Westcountry Wag continues to entertain audiences all over the country with his unique take on life.

Every year Jethro tours the country and plays to packed theatres across the UK, full of fans who cannot get enough of his warm and slightly cheeky humour. With his 'friends' Denzel Penberthy, Slipalong Trevaskis and Bill Pedureare in tow, the Cornish comedian promises to have audiences rolling in the aisles.

He started out as a carpenter but stumbled across his vocation while playing a few songs in a local pub. When his voice ran out, he decided to tell a few jokes instead and a star was born. Although he has appeared on television just a handful of times – most notably on Des O'Connor Tonight – his reputation as an excellent live performer has spread like wild fire.

Although he has a number of other business concerns, including his own variety club in Devon, Jethro continues to tour regularly.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £19/£18. To book call the box office on 0844 847 1776 or visit the website at www.leascliffhall.org.uk.



THE GRUFFALO

Tuesday, April 27 and Wednesday, April 28

Gulbenkian Theatre, Canterbury



LEARN about the power of the imagination in the much-loved children's tale, The Gruffalo.

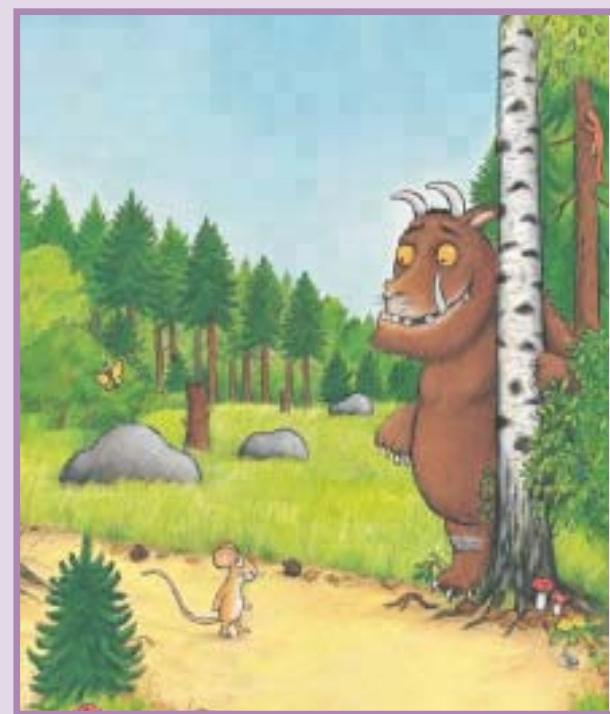
This Tall Stories production is a magical adaptation of the popular book by Julia Donaldson, with Axel Scheffler's beautiful illustrations. Suitable for children aged three and above, The Gruffalo is a captivating family show that will transport audiences of all ages into a fantasy world.

When Mouse sets off on a journey through the dark, wild wood, he is worried about the other animals that might want to eat him. But he soon discovers that he can see off any scary animals in the forest by inventing his own monster, the fearsome Gruffalo.

He believes the creature, with its huge claws and thick fur, is simply a figment of his own imagination. But what will Mouse do when he encounters a real-life Gruffalo?

The hour-long show starts at 1.30pm on Tuesday and at 11am, 1.30pm and 4.20pm on Wednesday.

Tickets cost £10 or £8.50 for groups of 10 or more. Book online at www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk or call the box office on 01227 769075.



THE MAGIC OF BEING CLOSE TO BIG CATS

W H F is a charity based in Kent working hard to ensure the survival of big cat species. We are an active partner in the European Endangered Species Breeding Programmes and raise awareness and funding for cat projects around the world.

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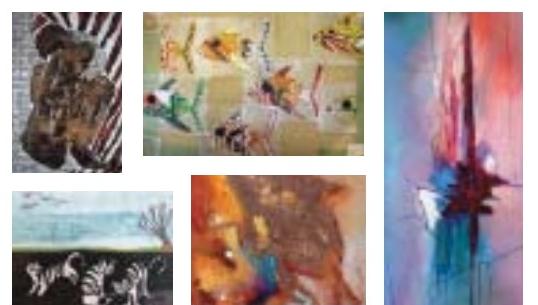
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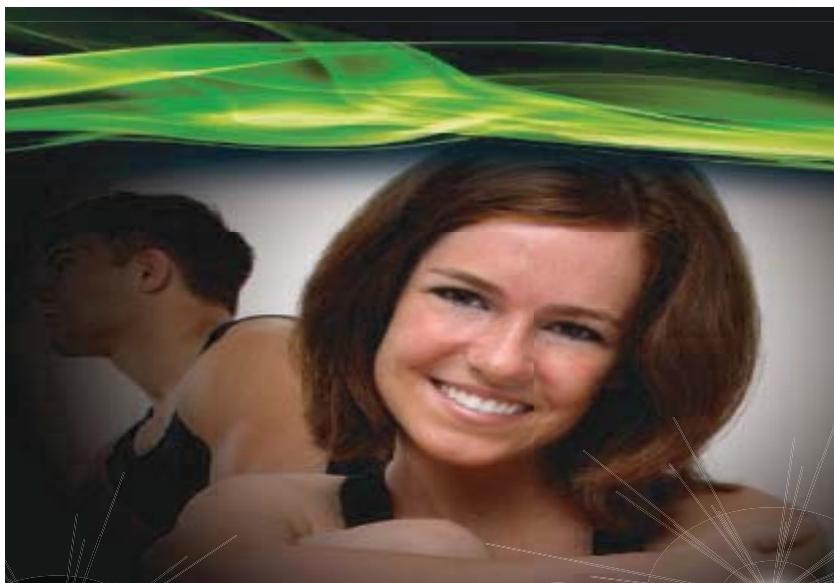
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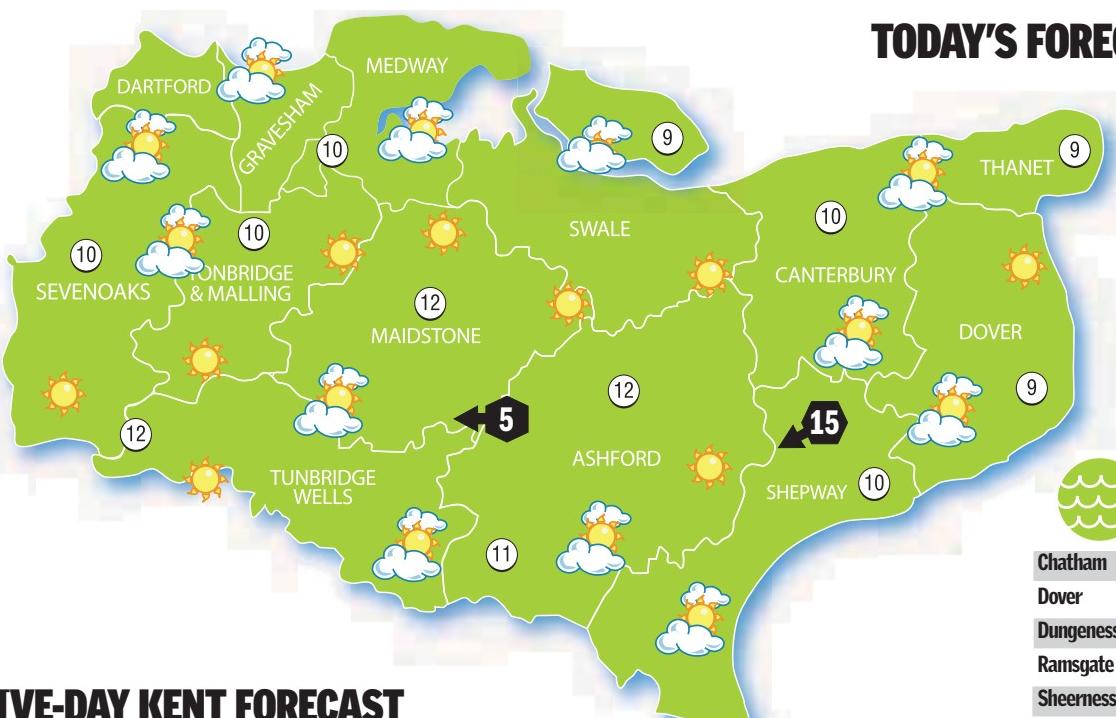
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TODAY'S FORECAST



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	11°C	Madrid	16°C
Athens	21°C	New York	11°C
Barcelona	17°C	Paris	19°C
Beijing	16°C	Rome	18°C
Bombay	32°C	Sydney	23°C
Cape Town	17°C	Tenerife	21°C
Cardiff	12°C	Tokyo	18°C
Gibraltar	18°C	Vancouver	18°C
Hong Kong	28°C	Warsaw	16°C
Las Palmas	22°C	Wellington	20°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	14°C	13°C	12°C	15°C	16°C
Canterbury	12°C	10°C	10°C	13°C	15°C
Chatham	12°C	10°C	9°C	13°C	14°C
Dartford	15°C	12°C	12°C	15°C	16°C
Dover	12°C	10°C	10°C	13°C	13°C
Faversham	12°C	10°C	9°C	13°C	14°C
Folkestone	12°C	10°C	10°C	13°C	13°C
Gillingham	12°C	10°C	9°C	13°C	14°C
Gravesend	15°C	12°C	12°C	15°C	16°C
Maidstone	14°C	12°C	11°C	15°C	16°C
Ramsgate	12°C	10°C	10°C	13°C	15°C
Rochester	12°C	10°C	9°C	13°C	14°C



KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	9:45am 5.3m	Sunday	10:57am 5.7m
Dover	Saturday	8:24am 5.7m	Sunday	9:24am 6.0m
Dungeness	Saturday	8:00am 6.3m	Sunday	9:12am 6.7m
Ramsgate	Saturday	8:54am 4.3m	Sunday	9:54am 4.6m
Sheerness	Saturday	9:33am 5.2m	Sunday	10:45am 5.4m
Whitstable	Saturday	9:42am 4.8m	Sunday	10:51am 5.0m

SUNRISE 5.47am SUNSET 8.02pm

MOONRISE 11.05am MOONSET 2.28am

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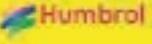
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yourcompetition

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You will find thousands of items not available anywhere else. The Gardeners Paradise specialises not only in shrubs and specimen plants, but also many unusual items like hand-carved stone statues, water features and pots specially made for our garden centre.

Manager Celia Hanks said: "We realised quickly we had to be different to all the other garden centres so we not only grow our own plants but source unique products from all over the world."

"You will always find something different here and our friendly staff keep the customers coming back again and again."

We see the online gardening club as an add service to our loyal customers and friends, the family have surely come a long way during the last 88 years from horse and cart of our great granddads to the internet but we are still just as friendly.

Find one of Kent's best-kept secrets, once you find us you will be back again and again, that's a promise!

To Join our FREE online gardening club and receive exclusive discounts and special offers only available to club members all you need to do is complete the simple log in on www.gardeners-paradise.co.uk or complete the competition form giving your name and email address, you will receive unbeatable offers every month via your email; not only fantastic offers and bargains, but also monthly gardening tips on things to do in the garden.

To win this beautiful hand carved centre piece that can be used as a water feature, planted up or used as a great looking centre piece in any garden.

To be in with a chance of winning simply answer this question

Question: How Long has Gardeners Paradise been in business?

Send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to The Gardeners Paradise Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is Monday, May 10, 2010.

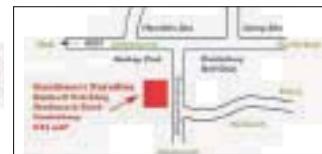
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yourmusic

Local heroes join legends at farm



NEXT BIG THING? Alternate folk aficionados The Slow Club have joined the line-up

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

A HOST of hot up-and-comers will head for the haystacks later this year after being unveiled as Lounge on the Farm's latest line-up additions.

The bands were added to the bill by co-curators Moshi Moshi and Wichita Recordings.

Between them the revered indie labels have helped launch the careers of Hot Chip, Bloc Party, The Cribs and Florence & The Machine and will be hoping their latest pupils will emulate their predecessors.

The new acts on offer throughout day two of the summer weekend include Slow Club, The Wave Pictures and Hot Club de Paris.

A Lounge spokesman said: "The two labels will showcase the wealth of new blood on their respective rosters.

"Such is their collective reputation for sniffing out the next big thing, you can guarantee the day will be littered with soon-to-be venue fillers including alt folk aficionados Slow Club, the enigmatic Silver Columns, floktronic purveyor James Yuill and acclaimed Swedish vocal harmonisers First Aid Kit."

Among the LOTF headliners are Motown greats Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, ska legends Toots & The Maytals, The Crazy World of Arthur Brown, DJ Yoda and Courtney Pine.

Lounge bosses are promising their fifth year will be the biggest and best yet.

The spokesman added: "We have a medley of musical pleasures – from local heroes and the next big things to the truly legendary – spread across seven stages, plus incredible comedy, theatre, burlesque and vaudeville treats, the kids' Little Lounge area and some of the most refined, locally-sourced refreshments to be found at any festival."

LOTF is at Merton Farm, Canterbury, from Friday, July 9, to Sunday, July 11. A weekend adult ticket costs £95. Day tickets are released next month.

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Belleville perform For You (Forever Young) in Canterbury.



Jus' Ben covers Keane's modern classic Everybody's Changing.



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan - Times Change (from Deal)
- 2 I.R.I.S - Thicker Than Water (from Deal)
- 3 Save Target As - You've Got Me (from Deal)
- 4 Shelta - We Can Make It (from Bexley)
- 5 Craig Sheridan - Winter Sunn

For more information visit www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk
LINE-UP: Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, Toots & The Maytals, DJ Yoda, Courtney Pine, Fionn Regan, Kitty, Daisy & Lewis, Tuning, Crazy World of Arthur Brown, Thomas Gandey (Cagedbaby), Male Bonding, Gaggle, Man Like Me, King Charles, Circulus, Jesca Hoop, Treetop Flyers, Your Twenties, Don Letts, The Glimmers, J'Star, Raf Daddy (Two Bears), Vadimessico, Xylaroo, 6 Day Riot, Cats And Cats And Cats, Cocos Lovers, Elephants, Gaolers Daughter, Cha Cha, Polka Party, Two Wounded Birds, Hobo Jones & The Junkyard Dogs, Intensified, Krissy & The Jackdaws, Slap Alice and Natasha Davies



NORTHERN LIGHTS: If you're in luck, you'll catch the Aurora Borealis over Reykjavik. Failing that, head to Nasa, below, for a light show

yourgetaways



See the sights and the lights in the Land of Midnight Sun

■ BY WESLEY JOHNSON

"IF I don't come back, it's probably best not to follow me," our guide says, axe in hand, as he cautiously navigates the boulder of ice blocking our route.

We are standing on the tongue of a glacier in the south of Iceland, the rain and fog hampering our vision as it hammers down.

Jet-black volcanic ash covers the ice as we make our way across the glacier, steering clear of the many crevices and cracks in the ever-changing landscape.

Nothing dissolves a hangover as fast as the need to concentrate, yet we are just two hours from the bars and restaurants of Reykjavik.

The buzzing city centre sees the day's coffee bars transformed into vibrant venues at night.

All the action takes place around Laugavegur, the main street, with revellers flitting from one bar to the next until 5am.

NASA, an impressive club playing music from disco to house, offers only a small stage but attracts some of the best live music in the country.

The barn-like Jacobsen offers techno and electro beats, while the cosy Kaffibarinn, part-owned by Blur's Damon Albarn, is reputedly one of the coolest bars in the city. It is no wonder that it draws crowds from far and wide.

The collapse of the Icelandic banking system halved the value of the Icelandic króna and plunged the prices towards UK levels – this is one of the few places in Europe where Britons feel well off.

And for the way home, the famous Baejarsins Beztu hot-dog stand lies near the harbour with its picture of former US President Bill Clinton eating one of its finest specimens.

FACT FILE: ICELAND

Time difference	+One hour (GMT)
Capital	Reykjavik
Language	Icelandic
Population	317,500
Currency	Icelandic krona

Wesley Johnson flew with Iceland Express from Gatwick to Reykjavik from £89 single, including taxes. Stansted flights also available. Call 0118 321 8384 and www.icelandexpress.com.

Discover The World three-night Reykjavik breaks from £303, with seven-night Southern Highlights self-drive stay from £585. Call 01737 218800 and www.discover-the-world.co.uk.

Take A Walk on Ice Side glacier hiking trip organised by Reykjavik Excursions. Information: www.re.is and 00 354 580 5400.



However, after a night of midsummer madness in the land of fire and ice, one of the best places for a morning of recovery is the Blue Lagoon.

Feted for their healing power and set in a lava field, the soft, milky waters of the silica-rich geothermal spa are an inviting 39c.

When you are ready to face the day, venture beyond the capital for the country's real treasures.

The landscape has a moon-like quality with the rocky, black lava fields surrounding our coach.

The Solheimajokull glacier tongue, two hours from Reykjavik, is an awesome sight.

Some eight kilometres long, the ever-moving block of ice, up to 600 metres deep, is an unforgiving environment.

Our mountain guide, Bjorgvin – who was carrying ropes and climbing gear in case of an accident – said

the landscape was changing so much that each time he returned to it, it was different.

The ice is retreating at a rate of 100 metres per year as it melts, and strong streams draining off snow-fields high on the Myrdalsjokull volcano, undercut and erode the glacier.

It's no place for the unprepared.

"It's not a walk in the park," said Bjorgvin as he checked that we knew how to use our kit.

With the Arctic Circle just 25 miles to its north, the winter temperatures from October to May also bring the awe-inspiring Northern Lights – shimmering light-shows in the night sky.

But with a clear, cold night – and a splash of luck – needed to see them, we knew we were out of luck. The incessant rain left us with rather more time than we had expected to explore the city's nightlife to the full.

MOTORS NEWS



Malaysian brand gets a big Scrappage boost

PERODUA saw new vehicle registrations rise a whopping 114.5 per cent year-on-year in March.

The Malaysian manufacturer's Myvi five-door supermini, which costs less than £7,000, took the lion's share of the sales boosted by the final month of Scrappage, offering a £2,000 grant towards a new car in return for scrapping a part-exchange vehicle at least ten years old.

Perodua's first-quarter sales were also 88.6 per cent up on the previous year – it also sells the boxy Kenari mini-MPV.



Land Rover's march to best-ever sales record

LAND Rover recorded its best-ever UK sales for March – 67 per cent up on March 2009 – and also saw demand soar 43 per cent globally in the same month.

The British-based, Indian-owned 4x4 specialist's MD Phil Popham said the increase was due to "phenomenal" response to the 2010 model year Range Rover, Range Rover Sport, Discovery and Freelander.

"It is the most efficient and technologically advanced line-up of vehicles Land Rover has ever had," he said.



Mazda breaks 50,000 barrier for second time

KENT-based Mazda UK has sold more than 50,000 new cars in this country during a year for only the second time in its history.

The Mazda2 supermini was the company's top seller in the 2009/2010 financial year, shifting 20,000 – 7,000 more than in the previous year.

Mazda UK MD Jeremy Thomson said: "What has really driven our sales is a very healthy retail mix, with 70 per cent of total sales to private buyers, well ahead of the industry average of around 55 per cent."



STRETCHING THE TRUTH: You can't knock the Clio Sport Tourer for practicality with 50 per cent more load space than a standard Clio, but it does not have quite the right image

When is an estate not an estate? When it's a Clio!

RENAULT offers a load-lugging version of its big-selling Clio supermini, but don't even think about calling it an estate.

It's the Clio Sport Tourer to you and me and it packs 50 per cent more load space than the standard Clio hatch – one of the most capacious models in its class anyway.

What you lose, though, is the elegance and French chic this spin-off should inherit by right from its hatchback sister.

To be fair, the 'supermini estate' is one of the toughest styling briefs in the industry; superminis are pretty space-efficient anyway, so you have to add a bit of bulk to make an estate alternative worthwhile – ugliness tends to be an unfortunate side-effect.

Skoda has booted twice with successive Fabia load-carriers and, though early shots of the forthcoming Seat Ibiza estate look promising, I still fear the sporty Spanish brand might yet deliver something mundane in the metal.

And that's the Clio's problem, made all the worse by trying to dress it up with alloy roof rails and marketing hype like 'Sport Tourer'

ROAD TEST RENAULT CLIO

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

when it looks anything but. However, you can't knock its practicality: a low 58cm rear sill height eases loading heavy or bulky items; rear seats can be folded flat without having to remove the headrests and there is a compartment to stow the rear parcel cover when not in use.

Prices start from £12,575, but our car was the flagship £16,085 Dynamique 86bhp 1.5-litre diesel with inbuilt TomTom sat-nav system and generous spec – but starting to look expensive at this sort of money.

I'm a big fan of Renault's willing diesels, but the extra cabin space of the Sport Tourer allows a lot of boomerang intrusion from both the engine and the road.

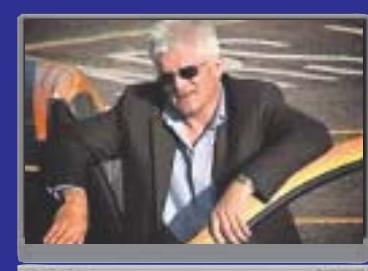
And while cabin trimming is quite smart in places, a luxurious leather-clad wheel and alloy highlights cannot disguise the fact that the materials were sourced for the more humble Clio models. As usual, I also found Renault's sound system needlessly complicated.

The standard Clio driving dynamics are good, with a fine balance of handling and comfort, though the car's styling does not quite have the 'mini-lifestyle estate' image that Renault wants that Sport Tourer label to suggest.



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Used Car Section

Skoda Octavia 2.0 T FSI vRS 5-Dr Hatchback Mar 2006

Black Metallic 43,200 miles * Manual Petrol £9,795

Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 TDI PD (80 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Satin Grey Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 25,300 miles. £8,795

Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 TDI PD (80 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Jan 2008

Beige Metallic 24,700 miles * Manual Diesel £7,995

Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Ambiente (75 HP) 5-Dr Estate Feb 2007

Brilliant Silver Metallic 22,473 miles * Automatic Petrol £7,495

Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Dec 2007

Brilliant Silver Metallic 11,572 miles * Manual Petrol £6,995

Skoda Fabia 1.4 Elegance (100 HP) 5-Dr Estate

Finished in Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 41,628 miles. £6,795

Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback Dec 2007

Beige Metallic 25,400 miles * Manual Petrol £6,795

Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Comfort (75 HP) 5-Dr Estate Feb 2004

Graphite Grey Metallic 48,500 miles * Automatic Petrol £4,995

Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI Elegance 5-DR Hatchback Aug 2004

Cappuccino 48,000 miles. £6,995

*Correct at time of going to press.

Skoda Octavia 1.6 FSI Hatchback Aug 2006

Silver Air con, rear parking sensors, 32,000 miles. £6,995

Skoda Octavia 1.4 Classic 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Silver Metallic with a Grey Cloth interior, 79,450 miles. £2,995

Other Makes

BMW 1 Series 1.6 116i ES 5-Dr Hatchback

Finished in Jet Black with a Black Cloth interior, 40,550 miles. £9,795

SEAT Toledo 1.9 TDI PD Styline 5-Door Hatchback Sep 2006

Nayara Blue Metallic 20,695 miles * Manual Diesel £7,995

SEAT Alhambra 1.9 TDI PD SE (130 BHP) 5-Door MPV Nov 2003

Pearl Blue Metallic 92,500 miles * Manual Diesel £5,795

SEAT Ibiza 1.2 12v Reference Sport 3-Door Hatchback Apr 2007

Black Magic Metallic 40,055 miles * Manual Petrol £5,995

Vauxhall Zafira 2.0 DTi 16v Design 5-Door MPV

Finished in Moonland Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 38,900 miles. £5,495

Vauxhall Astra 1.8 Life 16v 5-Door Hatchback Jan 2005

Metro Blue Metallic 67,500 miles * Automatic Petrol £4,995

Citroen C3 Pluriel 1.6 2-Door Cabriolet Jan 2004

Artic Steel Metallic 86,467 miles * Manual Petrol £4,495

Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 16v 5-Door Hatchback Dec 2006

Silver Lightning Metallic 33,364 miles * Manual Petrol £6,995

Vauxhall Astra 1.8 16v Design 5-Door Estate Jan 2005

Metro Blue Metallic 29,700 miles * Automatic Petrol £6,495

Fiat Multipla 1.6 100 16v ELX 5-Door MPV

Finished in Antarctic Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 68,900 miles. £4,995

Vauxhall Agila 1.0 Expression 5-Door Hatchback Aug 2006

Royal Blue Metallic 17,376 miles * Manual Petrol £4,295

Suzuki Wagon R 1.3 GL 75 BHP 5-Door Hatchback Mar 2002

Bright Red 39,350 miles * Manual Petrol £3,995

Ford Ka 1.3 3-Door Hatchback

Finished in Colorado Red with a Black Cloth interior, 56,500 miles. £3,995

Renault Scenic 1.6 Expression + 5-Dr Hatchback Apr 2001

Norse Grey Metallic 71,500 miles * Automatic Petrol £2,795



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*VAT reduction available on all Octavia models. Reduction applied to the RRP including factory fitted optional extras and is equivalent to the VAT applicable at the time. VAT is still applicable and will be shown on the customers invoice. **Minimum 50% deposit required for typical 0% APR offer, over two years. Only available on Fabia 3 & Scout Octavia L&K, vRS and 4x4.

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR JOURNEY 2.0 CRD SE MANUAL IN MPG (L/100 KM): URBAN 34.4 (8.2),
EXTRA URBAN 55.4 (5.1), COMBINED 44.8 (6.3). CO₂ EMISSIONS (COMBINED) 165 G/KM

Car shown is a Journey 2.0 CRD RT Manual £22,595 OTR. *Range pricing of £16,995 refers to Journey 2.4 SE Manual, including Vehicle Excise Duty (VED), first registration fee and VAT. Model features optional metallic paint at an additional £450 including VAT. [†]Excluding SE models. [‡]RT models only. Prices and specifications correct at time of going to press (04/10). Dodge is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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Notes for all of our Auctions

Although entries are accepted up to 7.00pm on Sunday 2nd May, we would strongly advise you, where possible, to book your vehicles in as early as possible, either by phone, email, or our new instant pre-booking service available on the internet to get maximum coverage. Our website has over 1000 visits each day, and as well as a description of your vehicle, we can now include photographs.

To book your vehicle in instantly on the internet, simply visit our website at www.hobbsparker.co.uk and click on "Car Auctions", then click on "Add Vehicle to Sale List".

As well as our usual opening times, we shall be open from 3.00pm to 7.00pm Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd May to take entries.

Regrettably no entries will be accepted on the sale day. All start times are approximate and the auction will run continuously.

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PROPERTY NEWS

Homeowners look to improve rather than move house

HOME improvement has come back into fashion due to a lull in large-scale activity in the housing market, say analysts.

John Drennan, director at builders' merchant Buildbase, also pointed out that enquiries for landscaping and exterior renovation had risen as well.

Another trend he noted was the increase in demand for plant hire. He said: "Large contractors are thinking 'Why spend capital to buy plant machinery?' and they are actually hiring it."

He agreed that sustainability was important and everyone was interested in what they could do.

Mr Drennan pointed to rainwater-harvesting and using solar power as ways of reducing a carbon footprint.

His comments came after the Conservative Party announced details of its Rebuilding Security proposal to offer households up to £6,500 worth of energy-efficiency improvements.

Earlier this month, the British Property Federation became the 22nd member of a coalition calling for VAT to be reduced on housing improvements.

Authority calls for mortgage limits to restrain market

THE Financial Services Authority claims that restricting mortgage rates could help prevent a boom-and-bust culture in the housing market.

FSA boss Lord Adair Turner proposed introducing "maximum limits on loan-to-value ratios" to curb asset price-bubbles in commercial or residential real estate.

However, the suggestions have been criticised by Bernard Clarke, communications manager for the Council Of Mortgage Lenders.

He said: "We don't think that that's an appropriate approach – we think it's a blunt tool in terms of addressing the real sources of consumer detriment."

Mr Clarke noted that the Council Of Mortgage Lenders does not favour credit control because of the risks it poses in excluding some consumers, who would not be able to access to a mortgage even though they could sustain the commitment.



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Reasons to be cheerful, with buyers trading up

■ BY NICK AMES

MOST of the people who want to move house are looking for bigger property, suggesting that consumers feel increasingly confident about the housing market, according to a recent study by estate agents.

The National Association of Estate Agents reported that 78 per cent of its members said the key reason potential buyers and sellers gave for moving was a desire to buy a bigger home.

The figure contrasted with research carried out last year, which showed a rising demand for smaller properties.

This meant an upsurge in interest in flats but fewer people wanting to buy four-bedroom detached homes.

Encouraging

The group said the resurgence in people looking to trade up the property ladder added to evidence that the housing slump was easing and the market was becoming more buoyant.

Peter Bolton King, chief executive of the NAEA, said: "The fact that there has been an increase in the number of people moving to a larger property suggests the UK is slowly emerging from the economic downturn.

"This may also be attributed to increased mortgage availability, which is encouraging news for the property industry."

The group, which asked 1,000 estate agents to cite the top three reasons people gave for wanting to buy or sell a home, also found that 58 per cent of agents said moves were being driven by people getting divorced, while 27 per cent cited getting a new job as a reason for moving.

But 41 per cent of estate agents said that needing to repay debt was a major factor forcing homeowners to sell their property, while 39 per cent said their clients were buying or selling a home following a family death.

Optimism in the market is at a two-and-a-half-year high, with four out of five expecting prices to increase in the next six months, according to a survey from property website Zoopla.co.uk, with the average increase predicted at 5.7 per cent.

"With the bad weather behind us and the recent stamp-duty relief introduced for first-time buyers, confidence in the property market has bounced back well," said the firm's commercial director, Nicholas Leeming.

Meanwhile, the latest index from Halifax shows that property prices bounced back in March, rising by 1.1 per cent, having fallen in February.

It is the eighth rise in the past nine months, taking the average price to 9.1 per cent above the low point reached in April last year.

The increase partly offsets February's 1.6 per cent fall and takes the average value of a home to £168,521.

This is 0.6 per cent higher than in the final quarter of 2009, compared with a 3.6 per cent rise between the third and fourth quarters of last year.

But Halifax economist Martin Ellis said this pointed towards a slowdown in house-price growth.

He said that a rise in the number of properties for sale was beginning to reduce the imbalance between supply and demand and was therefore likely to constrain the upward pressure on house prices.



OPTIMISTIC: Peter Bolton King of the NAEA

Clean up your act for safer home



SPRING-cleaning your house this year could make it safer for all who live there, say safety experts.

Storing large amounts of flammable material such as newspapers and cardboard can pose a substantial fire risk to your home, Kent Fire And Rescue Service is warning.

The advice is to keep such items to a minimum to help reduce the chances and effects of fire. Kent Fire And Rescue Service is also urging people to be good citizens and offer to help other family members – and especially older people – dispose of any household rubbish they may have accumulated.

Stuart Skilton, head of community fire safety, said: "Should you have a fire in your home, the presence of large amounts of flammable

material such as newspaper will mean that the fire will spread at a much faster rate.

"Our advice is to keep your home environment rubbish-free and to keep escape routes and doorways unblocked at all times.

"However, when throwing rubbish out, make sure you store it sensibly so it does not present a fire risk while it awaits collection.

"We also cannot over-emphasise the importance of having working smoke-alarm fitted in your home to allow early detection in case of fire.

"It is vital that you maintain your smoke-alarms and test the battery once a week to ensure they can be relied upon.

"Regular vacuuming around smoke-alarms is also recommended."

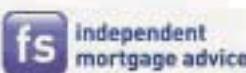
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FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03001

- One bedroom apartment
- Recently refurbished
- No chain

DOVER £99,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03104

- Two bedroom terraced house
- Modern kitchen, new bathroom
- Lounge/Diner and garden

SANDGATE ROAD £104,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02940

- One bedroom apartment
- Purpose built block
- Rarely available

DOVER £118,500
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03225

- 2 Bed Terrace
- Convenient location
- Modern kitchen and bathroom

FOLKESTONE £119,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03198

- 3 bedroom terrace
- No onward chain
- Keys available

FOLKESTONE £120,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03141

- Currently a 4 bedroom house
- Planning permission to extend
- Potential investment!

FOLKESTONE £124,950
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03156

- NO CHAIN
- 1/2 bed apartment
- Private garden

FOLKESTONE £125,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03134

- 3 bed terraced
- 2 reception rooms
- Large garden and no chain

WEST END £129,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03189

- 2 bed apartment
- Parking subject to availability
- No onward chain

FOLKESTONE £130,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02631

- One bedroom seafront apartment
- Superb sea front location
- Excellent order throughout

CHERITON £132,500
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03215

- 3 bedroom terrace
- In need of TLC
- No onward chain

FOLKESTONE £134,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02515

- 4 Bedroom family home
- 2 Receptions, modern kitchen
- Well presented, call to view

CHERITON £135,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03138

- 3 bed semi detached
- Needs modernisation
- Front and rear gardens

DOVER £135,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03169

- Large lounge/diner
- Good size garden
- Very quiet location

FOLKESTONE £135,000
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03171

- 23ft lounge/diner
- 3 bedrooms
- Quiet cul-de-sac location, no chain

WEST END £139,950
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02526

- 3 Bedrooms top floor flat
- Views over Grimston Gardens
- No chain, share of freehold

FOLKESTONE £149,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02724

- 3 Bedroom family home
- Lounge/diner, extended kitchen
- Double glazing, play area to loft

CHERITON £149,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03222

- 3 bedroom end terrace
- Enclosed rear garden
- No onward chain

FOLKESTONE £149,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03195

- 3 bedroom terrace
- Views over park
- Good size garden

FOLKESTONE £149,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03213

- Close to fast train links
- Three bedrooms
- No onward chain

DOVER £159,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03111

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Off street parking
- No chain

GOLDEN VALLEY £174,950
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03157

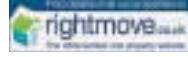
- 3 bed end of terrace
- Off road parking and garage
- No chain

FOLKESTONE £174,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03039

- 4 Bedroom terraced
- Superb decorative order
- Large rooms

SEA FRONT LOCATION £179,995
FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03013

- 2 bedroom apartment
- 2 bathrooms and private garden
- No chain



FOLKESTONE
t 01303 255 335

DOVER

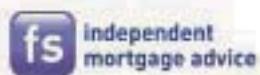
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hours**FOLKESTONE****£179,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03218

- 2 bed semi detached bungalow
- East Cliff location
- Sea and harbour glimpses

**CAPEL LE FERNE****£184,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03121

- 3 bed end terrace
- Large rear garden
- Off road parking

**WEST END****£184,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03196

- 3 bedroom apartment
- Sea views
- No onward chain

**FOLKESTONE****£184,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03191

- 3 bed semi-detached
- In need of modernisation
- No onward chain

**CHERITON****£194,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03211

- Superb 3 bedroom terrace
- Garage and parking
- No chain

**SANDGATE****£195,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03018

- 2 bedroom end of terrace house
- Sea view and balcony
- No chain

**METROPOLE****£199,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03089

- 3 bedroom apartment
- Sea views and no chain
- Fully renovated

**CHERITON****£199,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03010

- 3 bed detached
- Garage and driveway
- Private rear garden

**DOVER****O1X0 £200,000**

FOLKESTONE HFP03200

- 4/5 bed detached house
- 3/4 reception rooms
- Approx. 120ft rear garden

**CHERITON****O1E0 £204,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03103

- Modern 4 bedroom family home
- Bathroom & Shower room
- Potential 5th bed parking

**HAWKINGE****£205,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP02738

- Modern 3 bedroom detached
- 2 Receptions, cloakroom
- En suite & garage/driveway

**FOLKESTONE****£214,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03207

- 5 bedroom semi
- 2 reception rooms
- Enclosed rear garden

**CHERITON****£215,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03224

- 2 bed detached bungalow
- Fully refurbished
- No onward chain

**SANDGATE****£224,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03149

- 3 bedroom terraced
- High spec renovation
- Roof terrace/No chain

**HYTHE****£259,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03053

- 6 bedroom terraced
- GCH/garden
- Conservatory

**HAWKINGE****£264,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03194

- 5 bedroom semi-detached
- OSP/single garage
- Great size rear garden

**THE METROPOLE****£275,000**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03154

- 3 bed town house
- Top spec modernisation
- Stamp duty paid!!

**BROADMEAD VILLAGE****£279,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03147

- Superb 4 bedroom link detached
- 3 receptions, fitted kitchen
- OSP/single garage

**HAWKINGE****£289,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03187

- 4 bedroom detached
- 3 bathrooms
- Off road parking & garage

**FOLKESTONE****£359,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03092

- 8 bedroom semi detached
- 5 bathrooms
- No chain

**SANDGATE****£499,995**

FOLKESTONE OFFICE HFP03206

- 4 bedroom detached house
- Superb contemporary design
- Sea views and no chain

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Former station house set in approx 1.3 acres offering two paddocks, stables and kennels. Four bedrooms. Bathroom and wet room. Lounge and kitchen/diner. Detached double garage.

Dover Office

£475,000

01304 207099



Dover

Detached dwelling in the heart of the village of East Studdal. Kitchen/dining room, lounge, en suite to master, further two bedrooms, bathroom WC. Off road parking, garage & garden.

New Romney

£175,000

01797 363194



New Romney £239,995

Four bedroom semi detached cottage. Wealth of features including beams, stripped wooden floorboards and feature fireplaces. Lounge and dining hall. Study area/bathroom five. Garage.

New Romney 01797 363194



Dover OIEO £115,000

Three bedroom terraced house. Lounge, fitted kitchen, bathroom/WC. D/glazed & full gas centrally heated.

Dover Office 01304 207099



Whitfield £170,000

Three bedroom detached house. Entrance porch, hallway, fitted kitchen, living room, three bedrooms & bathroom/WC. Driveway, garage with front and enclosed rear gardens.

Dover Office 01304 207099

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Temple Ewell £275,000

Four bedroom detached bungalow. Lounge, fitted kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom and WC.

Dover Office 01304 207099



Folkestone £219,500

Three bedroom house. Open planned lounge, dining area, conservatory, fitted kitchen & bathroom. Off street parking, garage, d/glazing, c/heating & garden.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714



Greatstone £249,950

Detached bungalow. Four double bedrooms, lounge, separate dining room, modern kitchen and bathroom, detached double garage and off road parking.

New Romney 01797 363194



Dover OIEO £140,000

Three bedroom home. Situated in the favoured Charlton area of Dover. Through lounge/diner, kitchen and cloakroom to the ground floor.

Dover Office 01304 207099



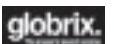
Folkestone £152,500

Two bedroom maisonette. Lounge open planned in to sun room, kitchen & bathroom. Part d/glazing, c/heating & garden.

New Romney 01797 363194

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Countrywide

DOVER



Dover 01304 201806

£240,000

Situated in the sought after Castle Avenue and ideally positioned for Dover Town Centre and all educational and recreational facilities. Viewing is recommended of this substantial Victorian town house.

The accommodation is arranged over four floors and comprises: entrance hall, reception/bedroom 5, dining room and kitchen on the ground floor, lounge/dining room with original bi-folding doors and with original feature fire place with marble surrounds and bathroom on the upper ground floor with two bedrooms a piece on the remaining two floors. The property sits on an elevated plot, set back from the road with lawn and path to front door plus an enclosed rear garden.



WHITFIELD



£170,000

Three bedroom semi detached property benefits from off street parking and a garage. Additional benefits include central heating and double glazing. The

Dover 01304 201806



property comprises of entrance hall, kitchen/diner, living room to the ground floor, and on the first floor three bedrooms and a bathroom.

DOVER



£139,995

Well presented three bedroom terrace house. Lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom.

Dover 01304 201806



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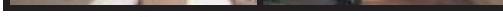


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FOLKESTONE



Folkestone 01303 259211

OIEO £179,950

We are delighted to offer this self contained two bedroom flat in the ever popular location of Clifton Crescent on The Leas side of the road.

The property, in our opinion, is a credit to the current owners and boasts kitchen/diner with Bosch induction hob, living room with south facing bay window, bedroom with en-suite bathroom, second bedroom and family shower room. There is a private courtyard garden with southerly aspect opening out onto private gardens for the block with direct access to The Leas. In the corridor to the property are two large walk in storage cupboards.

The property is situated in a conservation area and viewing is highly recommended.

Lease: A 125 year lease created in June 1999.

FOLKESTONE



£159,950

In immaculate condition and with off-road parking, we strongly recommend internal viewing of this terraced property. Downstairs offers a

Folkestone 01303 259211



lounge/dining room with french doors to the garden. The kitchen is well fitted with modern cream coloured wall and base units and solid wood worktops.

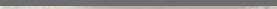
FOLKESTONE



£166,000

In our opinion the flat and building have been maintained to a high standard and retains some period features with all the comforts of modern living. The

Folkestone 01303 259211



apartment has two bedrooms, one with built in wardrobes, kitchen, bathroom, large storage cupboard and most importantly a bright sunny living room

DOVER



£129,950

Bairstow Eves are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £120,000 for 177 Folkestone Road. Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Bairstow Eves, 27 Market Square, Dover, CT16 1NQ on 01304 201806 before exchange of contracts.

DOVER



£149,950

Bairstow Eves are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £130,000 for 179 Folkestone Road. Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Bairstow Eves, 27 Market Square, Dover, CT16 1NQ on 01304 201806 before exchange of contracts.

FOLKESTONE



£84,950

Fifth floor retirement flat with views across the gardens to the sea from the bedroom. Lounge, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, double glazing, communal gardens.

SANDGATE



OIEO £189,995

Stunning uninterrupted sea views and Sandgate location, share of freehold, two bedrooms, garage, immediate viewing recommended.

THE LEAS



£197,995

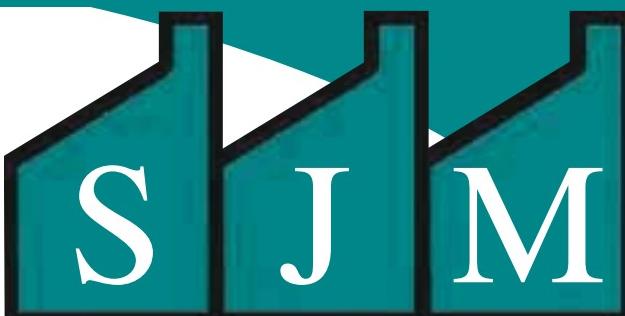
This apartment benefits from far reaching views across roof tops and the Channel with an impressive hallway over fifty feet long leading to the three bedrooms.

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CHARTFIELDS

Farmland views double fronted house three bedrooms (master en suite) cloakroom dual aspect sitting room kitchen / diner bathroom garage parking two cars d/glazed gas heating.

£217,500



WILLESBOROUGH

Two bed detached bungalow, Sitting room, fitted kitchen, rear garden, driveway, garage, gas heating double glazing, hot tub (available under separate negotiation) conservatory.

£229,995



KENNINGTON

Detached property, four bedrooms (master with en suite), cloakroom sitting room, dining room, kitchen with utility area, bathroom, double garage, gas heating, double glazing.

£365,000



CHARTFIELDS

Coach house style property, two bedrooms sitting / dining room, Fitted kitchen, bathroom, garage, no chain.

£144,995



CLOSE TO VICTORIA PARK

Attractive town house, kitchen, dining room four bedroom, sitting room en suite to master, driveway attached garage, rear garden, gas heating & double glazing.

£212,500



WILLESBOROUGH

Character cottage style property, near to schools and local shops, sitting/dining room kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, no chain.

£153,995



CLOSE TO TOWN

Two bedroom mid terr hse. kitchen sitting room bathroom two allocated parking spaces gas heating d/glazing no chain.

£143,995



KENNINGTON

Study, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, d/glazed gas heating, courtyard with storage shed, good sized garden, no chain.

£145,000



SINGLETON FARM

Enlarged chalet style home sitting room separate dining room large kitchen ground floor bathroom, three bedrooms (master en suite cloakroom) 75ft rear garden, d/glazed gas heating.

£159,995



WILLESBOROUGH

First floor flat two bedrooms, sitting room kitchen bathroom, gas heating double glazing, off road parking, rear garden.

£115,000



KNIGHTS PARK

Situated in small cul de sac detached three bedroom house (master en suite) sitting room dining room kitchen utility room cloakroom bathroom garage parking rear garden not overlooked.

£239,995



WYE

Two double bedroom bungalow sitting room kitchen shower room conservatory / sun room double glazed walking distance from local shops.

£175,000



KENNINGTON

Detached house, three bedrooms (master en suite), open plan sitting room / dining room, kitchen, bathroom, cloakroom, gas heating, d/glazing, no chain.

£214,995



CLOSE TO TOWN

Three bedroom end ter house with allocated parking spaces cloakroom sitting room separate dining room kitchen bathroom d/glazed gas heating.

£210,000



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For further details and an application pack, please contact Marion Wigington at m.wigington@spireacademy.com or by telephone on 01227 710392.

Closing date: Monday 3rd May 2010

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For an informal discussion of the above post please contact Susan Wyles on 01233 639383 or 07725 433267.

An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote reference number 652.

Closing date: 7 May 2010. Interview date: 19 May 2010 in Ashford.

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Interviews: 25th May 2010.

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Closing date for receipt of application is 12 noon Wednesday 28th April

Interviews will be held Tuesday 11th May 2010. Further details and application pack from jireland@diocant.org or telephone 01227 459401. If you would like an informal discussion with John McParland, Principal Designate, regarding this post please call 07852 236444. www.proposedacademyforashford.org



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Head of Faculty Advanced Engineering

Salary: c£46k

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Salary: c£46k

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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Please note that CV's will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 23rd April 2010.

Interviews will be held on 4th May 2010.

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Closing date: Friday 30 April 2010.
 Interview dates: 13 & 14 May 2010 in Maidstone.

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Working in a demanding environment, you should have excellent typing skills and be confident in your ability to use Microsoft Office to a high standard. As the author of the Generic SPI service's quarterly newsletter, you will be required to demonstrate a commitment to keeping up-to-date with the key issues within the field whilst also using your own creativity and innovative approach to communicate the success of the service to external organisations.

The ability to collate and input data accurately onto a database whilst managing spreadsheets on Microsoft Excel is essential. You will also be able to demonstrate an accomplished style of communicating effectively with a wide cross-section of other off-site professionals in a factual and concise manner. You need to be able to prioritise your own workload and respond appropriately to referrals within the service's targeted deadlines. Ref: 650.

For further information about the post, please contact the SPI Functional Specialist Lead - Toni Howes on 01227 454740 or the Administration Functional Specialist Lead - Christine Gordon on 01795 590795 ex 2.

Closing date: Friday 30 April 2010.
 Interview date: TBC.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote the relevant reference number.

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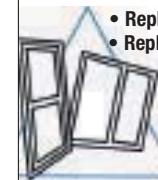
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RUGBY

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SAFE AND SOUND: Dover powered to victory to earn a shot at promotion to the National Leagues

Coach is confident Sharks can adapt to national league

Dover 34 Sidcup 22

PROMOTION to the national leagues is a realistic possibility after Dover secured a London 1 play-off place with a 34-22 win against Sidcup.

The Sharks now face London 1 North side Civil Service in a game later this month to decide who will earn the final promotion place into National League 3 London and South East.

With the chance to clinch six promotions in eight seasons, Dover head coach Graham Tonks is looking forward to the opportunity. He believes the club would be able to adapt to the prospect of National League rugby next season.

He said: "It's been a very difficult year, but we have worked hard and it's a great achievement for us."

"We don't know an awful lot about Civil Service, but I'm sure it will be a tough game."

"As for next season, we have shown we can cope every time we have been promoted. I'm sure we have got the skills needed to cope if we go up again."

Sidcup made Dover work hard for their 33-22 win at Crabble on Saturday.

Tonks' side started well and opened up a healthy lead after scoring three tries in the first-half. Jamie Townley scored twice, with Ricky Mackintosh crossing the try line for the other.

But a Sidcup fight back made the score 19-13 at the break.

Three penalties early in the second-half gave Sidcup the lead, but in the final 15 minutes Ben Murray and Dan Robinson breached the visiting defence to secure the valuable win.

Dover play their final game of the regular season this Saturday when Old Colfeians visit Crabble.



TOUCH GOING: Nicky Southall, left, and Shaun Welford, right, tried their best to get on the scoresheet against league champions Newport County on Saturday but it was all to no avail



Poor start leaves Whites with hill to climb in Wales

DOVER Athletic's eight-game winning run came to an abrupt halt as they failed to spoil the promotion party at Blue Square South champions Newport County.

Conceding two goals in the opening 15 minutes left Andy Hessenthaler's side with a mountain to climb as they tried to inflict Newport's first home defeat of the season.

Despite a spirited second-half performance, Dover slipped to a 3-0 defeat.

The Whites started in the worst possible way, conceding after just 90 seconds. Olly Schulz fell while trying to clear and allowed Kerry Morgan to race in and slot past goalkeeper Ross Flitney.

The Whites responded shortly after from a dangerous Nicky Southall free-kick. The set-piece found Shaun Welford, but his header was saved by goalkeeper Glyn Thompson.

Minutes later Dover's hopes of victory were crushed as they conceded a second goal with only 15 minutes on the clock. Danny Rose's corner found Chris Todd at the near post and his bullet header flew into the net.

Midway through the half Dover had a penalty shout when Welford was brought down in the area by Scott Rogers, but the referee was quick to wave away appeals from the Dover

FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

Newport County 3

Morgan 2, Todd 15, Rose 67

Dover Athletic 0

players.

The Whites enjoyed a lot of possession, but with County looking solid in defence, Dover were only able to forge half-chances.

Southall sent a half-volley inches wide of the post, before Danny Walder's long throw was just too far in front of Welford for him to get the final touch.

Tremendous

Newport wrapped up the points just after the hour, when Rose headed in a Paul Bignot cross. Dover tried to find a way back, but were left frustrated by an impressive Newport side.

Dover boss Hessenthaler said: "To concede a goal after 90 seconds is not the way we wanted to start. I said to the players we needed to keep it tight, but these things happen in football."

Dover Athletic starting XI



Subs used: Cloke (Walder 64)

"Credit to Newport, they deserved the win. We have been on a tremendous run and it's hard to find fault with the players."

The Whites play their final game of the league season at home to Staines this Saturday and Hessenthaler intends to finish the season on a high note.

With his squad down to the bare bones due to injuries, he admitted his biggest concern is picking up more injuries ahead of the play-offs.

He said: "We haven't really got any players we can rest for the final game and can't really afford to pick up any more injuries."

"Injuries have been the story of our season, but I'm not going to hide behind that as every club gets them. Hopefully we can avoid picking up anymore and get back some momentum."

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Seasiders leave it late but keep slim title hopes alive

FOOTBALL

■ BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Ramsgate 1

Chappell og 28



Folkestone Invicta 2

Austin 45, Vincent 87



JOSH Vincent's late strike ensured Folkestone Invicta finished a disappointing week on a high with a win at Ramsgate on Saturday.

The victory kept the Seasiders' Ryman South title hopes intact going into last night's must-win game at home to leaders Croydon Athletic.

Invicta's season looked to be stalling last week after a defeat at home to Whyteleafe and draw at Walton & Hersham, but Saturday's win at least kept them in the hunt.

As with so many of their wins this season they left it late, Vincent netting to complete a comeback after Frankie Chappell's own goal had given Ramsgate the lead.

It set up a mouth-watering clash last night, but whatever happened Cugley was pleased to take the title race into the final few days of the campaign.

He said: "I think it was important. We had to be realistic, our chances of overtaking the ten-point penalty was always going to be difficult,

HEADS YOU WIN: Micheal Everitt, left, contests a high ball with Ramsgate's Warren Schulz during Saturday's win

but to be into the last week of the season still in the title race is great. We're now definitely at home in the play-offs, which is important."

A hip injury ruled Brendon Cass out of Saturday's trip to Southwood, so Simon Austin deputised up front.

A bad week took a turn for the worse just before the half-hour mark when Ramsgate took the lead. Rhys Lawson's cross gave Invicta's normally impregnable defence problems and it was deflected in by Chappell.

The lead lasted until first-half stoppage

Folkestone Invicta starting XI



Subs used: Dryden (Jackson 75), Guiver (Austin 75)

time. James Everitt squandered a fine chance to draw Invicta level, but Austin made no mistake when the ball fell his way, smashing a powerful shot beyond Rams goalkeeping Mott.

With his meagre resources stretched to the limit, Cugley threw on Jimmy Dryden for the final 15 minutes.

Rams enjoyed the lions' share of possession, but failed to trouble Jack Delo in the Folkestone goal and the game seemed destined for a draw. However, the Seasiders refused to give up and Vincent sent the travelling support into raptures when he thundered a low shot through a crowded penalty box and past Mott with three minutes remaining.

Invicta's final week of the regular season is also complicated by a Kent Senior Cup semi-final against Welling United tomorrow night.

Cugley is set to name a strong side for the game, which comes less than 48 hours before the final league game at home to Corinthian Casuals on Saturday. For a report from last night's game against Croydon, visit www.yourshepway.co.uk.

RUGBY



BATTLING: Folkestone tested the new champions

Folkestone make the new league champs fight to claim crown

East Grinstead 33 Folkestone 21

A DEPLETED Folkestone put in a gutsy display as East Grinstead sealed the London 3 South East title with a hard-fought game on Saturday.

The visitors were twice in front during the first-half, but the hosts' class eventually told as they got the two points needed to lift the league championship.

The Stones were able to take plenty of positives from the game, which was a far cry from the situation hours earlier, when they did not have a full squad. One benefit from the travel disruption caused by the volcanic ash was Taavi Ermel and Karmo Lomp were unable to fly home to Estonia so could play one more game for the club.

Injury also ravaged Folkestone's backs, which saw 17-year-old Josh Palmer promoted into the senior side for his debut.

Many travelling supporters feared the worst against a prolific East Grinstead side, but the visitors took the lead when Richard Lama touched down, before adding the conversion.

East Grinstead hit back with a penalty and converted try of their own to lead 10-7, but Folkestone found a response. Scott Stewart broke through and eventually found Jon Morton on the left wing, who juggled the ball and threw himself over the line.

Lama added the extras from the touchline.

The visitors were revelling in their role as party-poopers, but East Grinstead scored a penalty and a second try to lead 18-14 at the interval.

The home side remained on top in the second-half and two more tries helped them make the game safe.

Many teams would have wilted under the pressure, but Folkestone held firm and in the last ten minutes put the home team under pressure. They got the try their efforts deserved through Stewart, with John Eustace adding the conversion.

On Saturday Folkestone play their final home match against Heathfield & Waldron.

LEAGUE TABLE

(Not including midweek games)

BLUE SQUARE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Newport County	41	31	7	3	+66	100
2 Chelmsford City	41	22	9	10	+17	75
3 Dover Athletic	41	22	8	11	+19	74
4 Braintree Town	41	18	17	6	+16	71
5 Woking	40	20	9	12	+9	69
6 Bath City	40	19	11	10	+19	68
7 Havant & Waterlooville	41	18	14	9	+18	68
8 Staines Town	40	18	8	15	+17	66
9 Billinge United	41	16	13	11	+15	61
10 Thetford	40	17	9	15	+8	60
11 Eastleigh	41	17	9	17	-10	54
12 St Albans City	41	15	9	17	+1	52
13 Bromley	41	14	10	17	-9	48
14 Hampton & Richmond Boro'	40	13	9	18	-11	48
15 Basildon Town	41	13	9	19	-19	48
16 Maidenhead United	40	11	12	17	-6	45
17 Dorking Town	41	12	9	20	-20	45
18 Bishop's Stortford	41	11	11	19	-14	39
19 Lewes	40	8	15	17	-14	39
20 Worcester City	41	9	10	22	-15	37
R Weston-super-Mare	41	5	8	28	-42	23
R Weymouth	41	5	7	29	-68	22

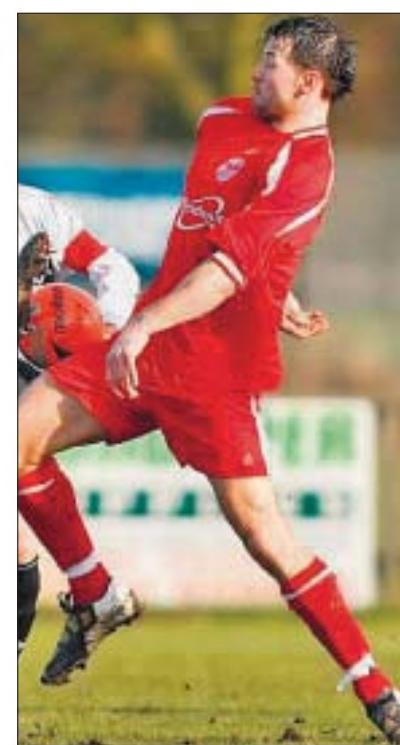
RYMAN DIVISION ONE SOUTH

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Croydon Athletic	40	26	7	7	+51	85
2 Folkestone Invicta (10)	40	28	7	5	+32	81
3 Worthing	40	25	5	12	+27	74
4 Codsall Town (-3)	39	24	5	10	+26	74
5 Leatherhead	40	21	5	12	+31	70
6 Fleet Town	40	21	6	13	+23	69
7 Burgess Hill Town	39	18	10	11	+16	64
8 Walton & Hersham	41	18	8	15	+3	62
9 Metropolitan Police	41	17	9	15	+10	60
10 Sittingbourne	39	17	7	15	+16	58
11 Horsham YMCA	41	14	14	14	+2	56
12 Chelmsford City	41	13	14	14	-4	53
13 Redbridge	41	15	6	20	0	51
14 Dulwich Hamlet	41	12	12	12	-9	51
15 Corinthian Casuals	40	16	3	21	-12	48
16 Merton	41	12	12	17	-16	48
17 Chatham Town	41	14	4	23	-19	46
18 Chipstead	41	10	10	21	-22	40
19 Whitemeade Town	40	12	3	25	-46	39
20 Ashford Town	40	8	11	21	-40	35
21 Walton Casuals	41	8	9	24	-25	33
R Eastbourne Town	41	6	11	24	-44	29

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	Gd	Pt
1 Faversham Town	28	22	2	4	+47	68
2 Herne Bay	28	20	2	6	+34	62
3 Beckenham Town	28	16	5	7	+22	53
4 Hythe Town	27	12	8	7	+28	44
5 Greenwich Borough	28	12	8	8	+9	44
6 Sevenoaks Town	28	14	4	10	+6	43
7 Dartford	29	11	7	10	+7	40
8 Deal Town	28	11	6	11	-6	39
9 Tunbridge Wells	29	10	8	11	-38	38
10 Norton Sports	28	10	6	12	-5	36
11 Frith & Bedeville	28	9	6	13	-16	33
12 Fisher	28	9	5	14	-15	32
13 Holmesdale	28	9	3	16	-5	30
14 Corinthian	28	8	3	17	-28	27
15 Sporting Bengal United	29	7	4	18	-50	25
16 Lordsworth	29	3	17	28	-1	18

FIXTURES (Tonight): Kent League Division: Sporting Bengal United v Hythe Town; (Tomorrow): Kent Senior Cup semi-final: Folkestone Invicta v Welling United; (Saturday): Blue Square South: Dover Athletic v Staines Town; Ryman Division One South: Folkestone Invicta v Corinthian Casuals; Kent League Premier Division: Erith Town v Hythe Town; Greenwich Borough v Deal Town



THREE OF A KIND: Craig Thompson's hat-trick away at Lordswood puts Hythe in good spot to finish fourth

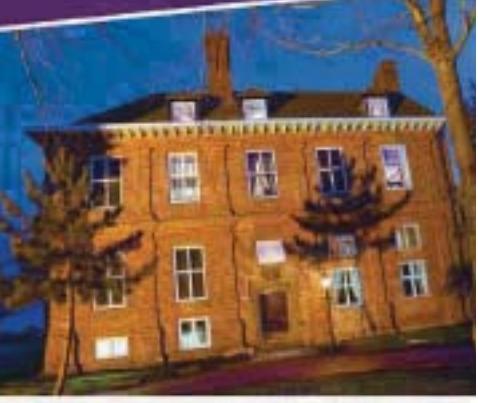
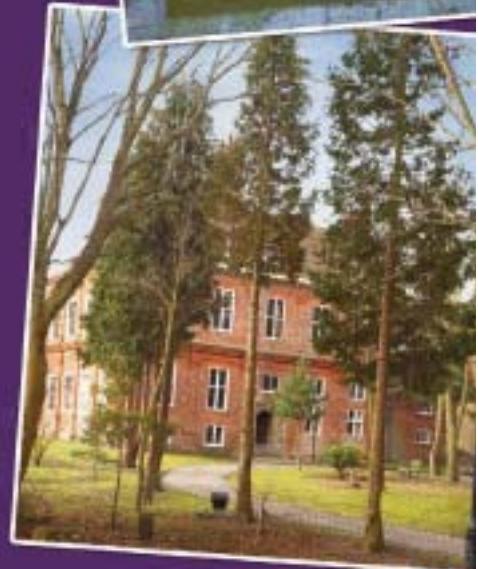
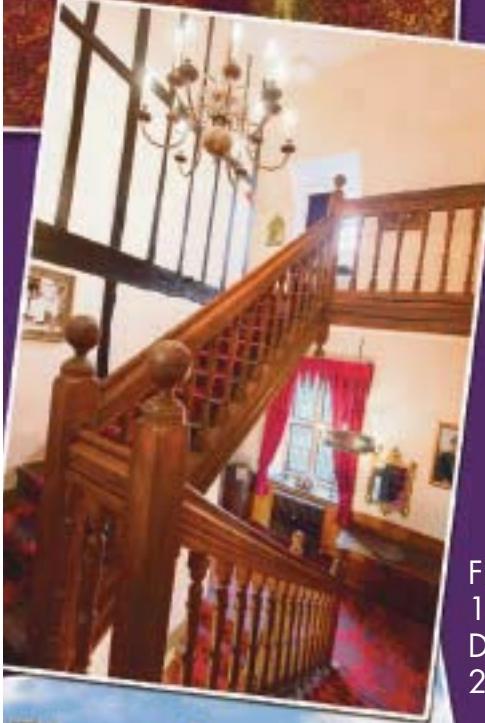
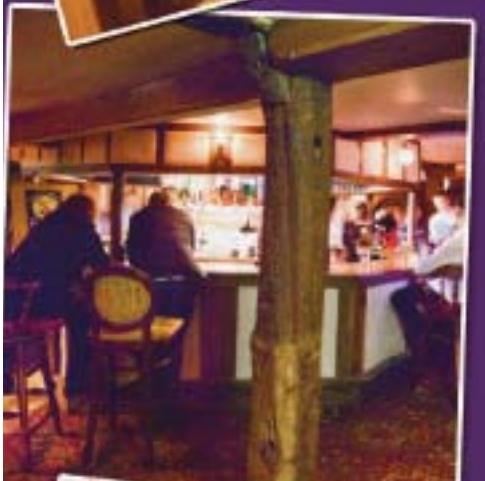
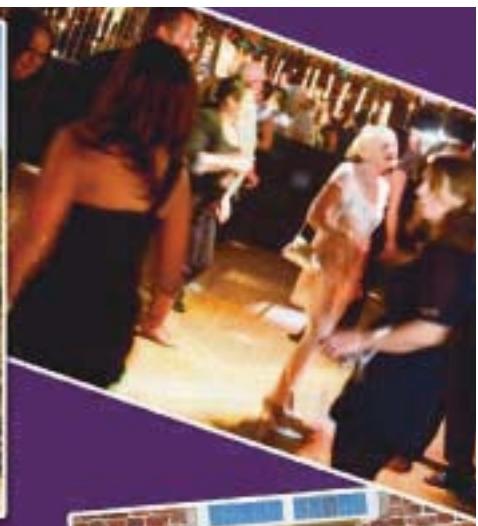
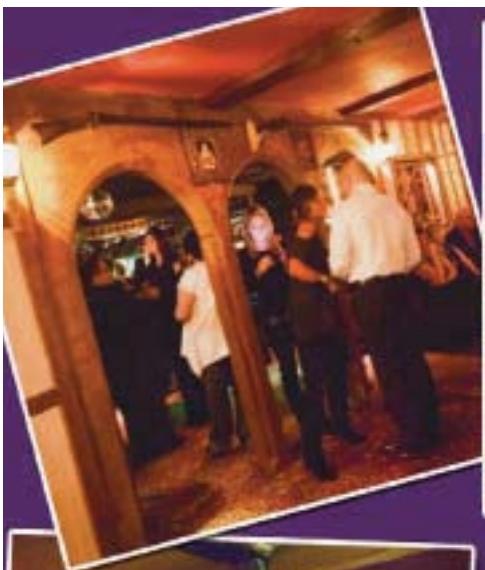
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